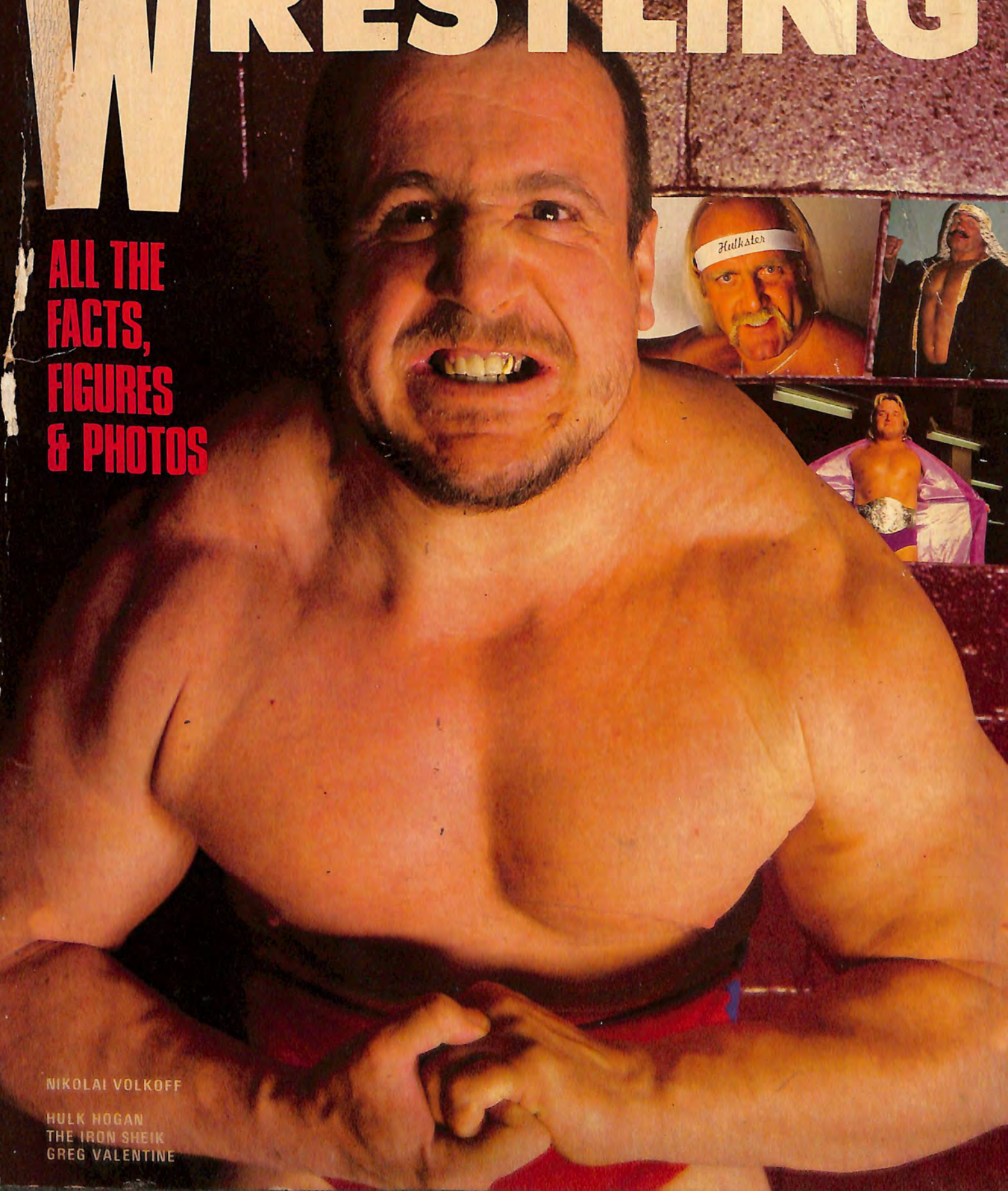


A RINGSIDE GUIDE TO

WRESTLING

ALL THE
FACTS,
FIGURES
& PHOTOS



NIKOLAI VOLKOFF

HULK HOGAN
THE IRON SHEIK
GREG VALENTINE

A RINGSIDE GUIDE TO
WRESTLING

CONTENTS

HEROES

CRUSHER BLACKWELL	4
HULK HOGAN	6
KERRY VON ERICH	8
ANDRE THE GIANT	10
CARLOS COLON	12
JIMMY "SUPERFLY" SNUKA	14
JIMMY VALIANT	16
SERGEANT SLAUGHTER	18
MIKE ROTUNDO	20
JUNKYARD DOG	22
RICKY STEAMBOAT	24
RICK MARTEL	26
BRUISER BRODY	28
DUSTY RHODES	30
TITO SANTANA	32
THE MASKED SUPERSTAR	34

HEELS

ABDULLAH THE BUTCHER	36
KAMALA, THE UGANDAN GIANT	38
PAUL ORNDORFF	40
BIG JOHN STUDD	42
HARLEY RACE	44

GORGEOUS JIM GARVIN	46
KEVIN SULLIVAN	48
THE MISSING LINK	50
WAHOO McDANIEL	52
ROWDY RODDY PIPER	54
TULLY BLANCHARD	56
GREG VALENTINE	58
RIC FLAIR	60
KEN PATERA	62

TEAMS

THE ROAD WARRIORS	64
THE IRON SHEIK AND NIKOLAI VOLKOFF	66
THE FREEBIRDS	68
THE FABULOUS ONES	70

WOMEN

LELANI KAI	72
WENDI RICHTER	74
THE FABULOUS MOOLAH	76
VELVET McINTYRE	78
THE PARTING SHOT	80

All rights reserved under International and Pan American copyright conventions. Copyright© 1985 Entertainment Today. This publication may not be reproduced or quoted in whole or in part by mimeograph or any other printed means, or for presentation on radio,

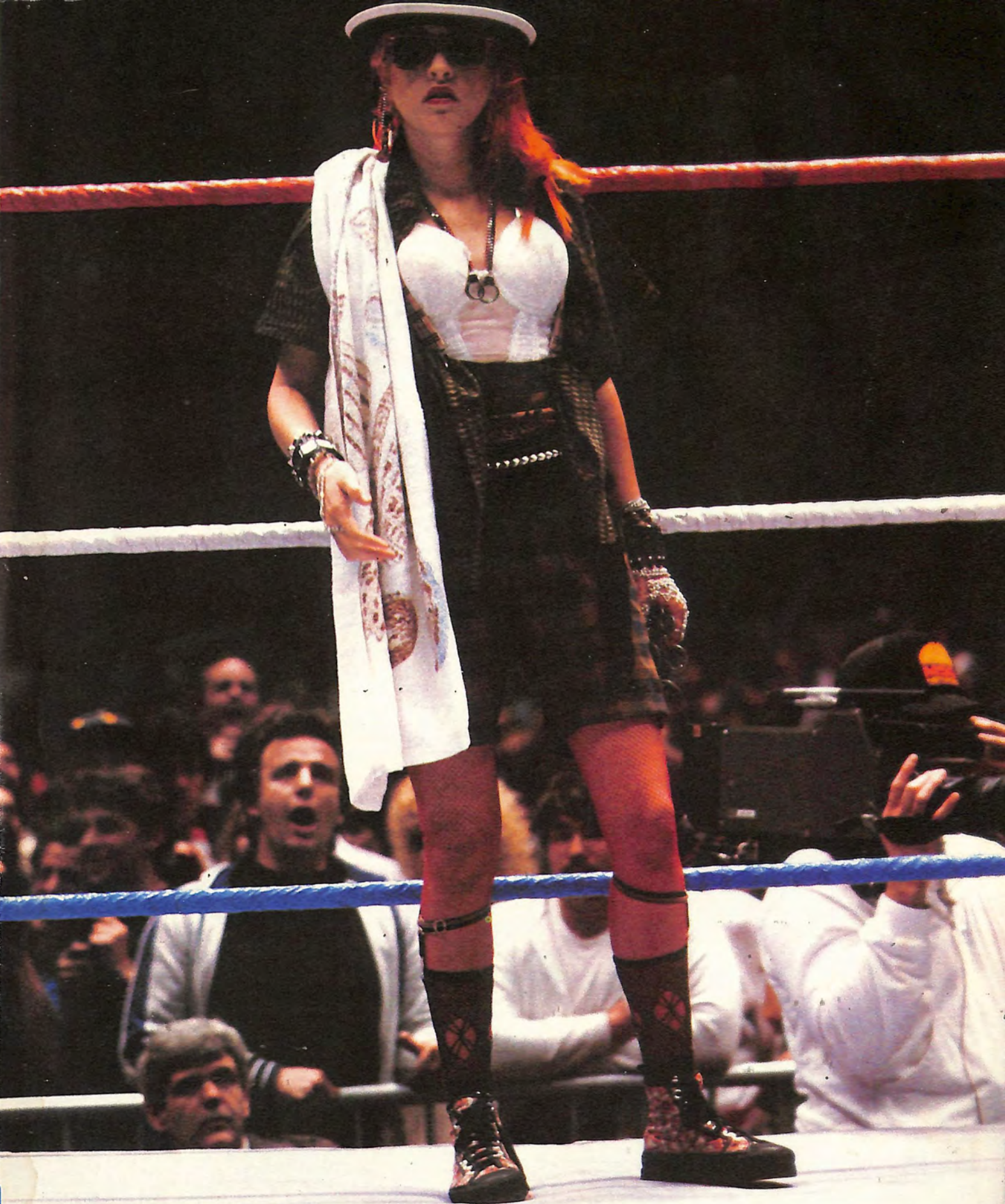
television, videotape, or film without written permission. Printed in USA.

Photo Credits

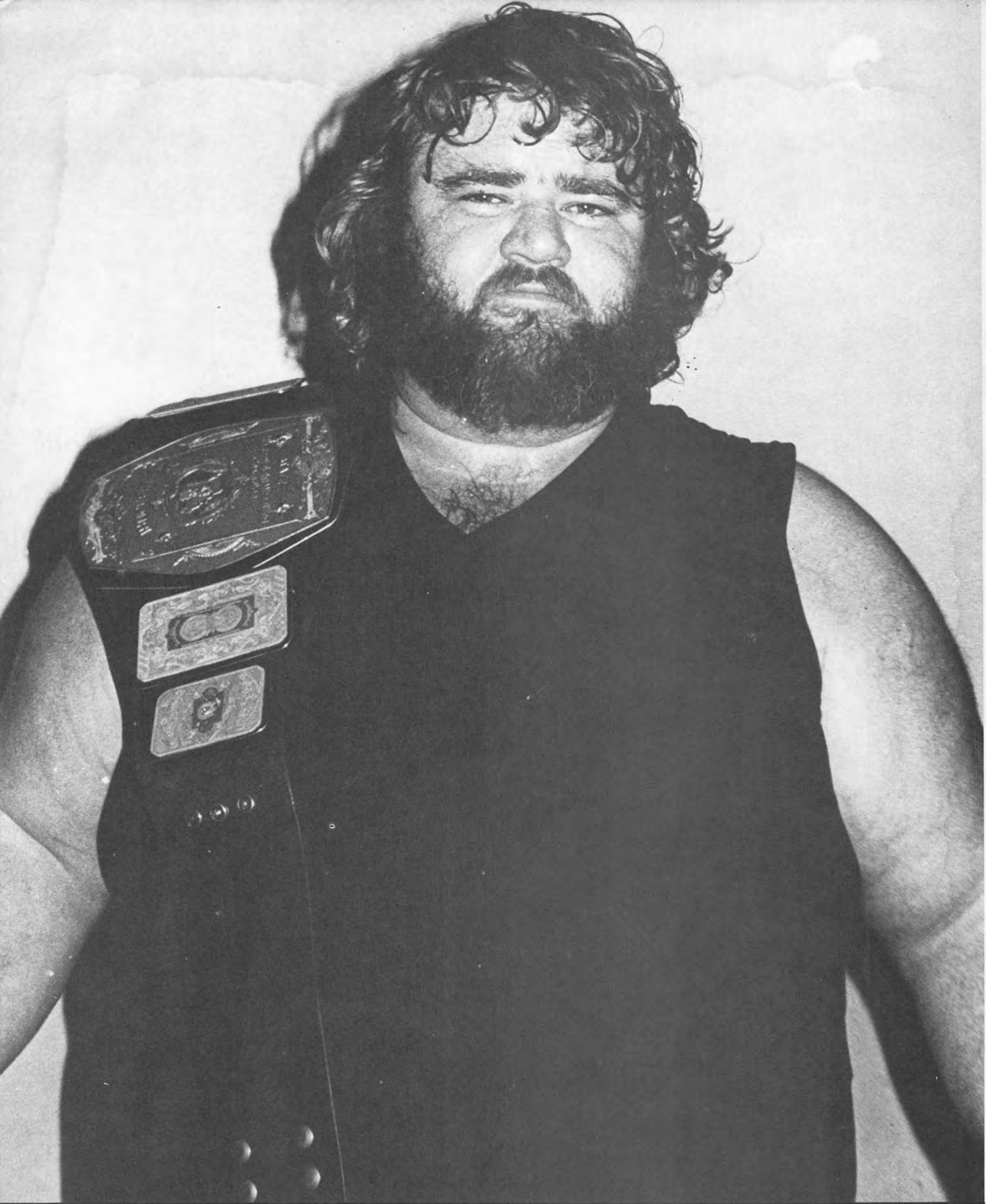
Mike Allen, page 5; Box Photo, pages 7, 14, 25, 27, 30, 37, 53, 72; Stephen Crichlow, pages 7, 23, 39, 41, 67, 76; Globe Photos, Inc.,

pages 3, 6; William Hart, page 11; Walter Ioss, Jr., pages 38, 43, 59, 62, front and back cover; George Napolitano, pages 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29, 31, 34, 35, 36, 37, 39, 42, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 60, 61,

63, 64, 65, 68, 69, 70, 71, 73, 78, 79, front cover; Personality Photos, Inc./Steve Taylor (Titan Sports, Inc./WWF) page 74; Personality Photos, Inc./Titan Sports, Inc. (WWF), pages 15, 18, 19, 32, 33, 40, 75, 77; Wide World Photos, page 7



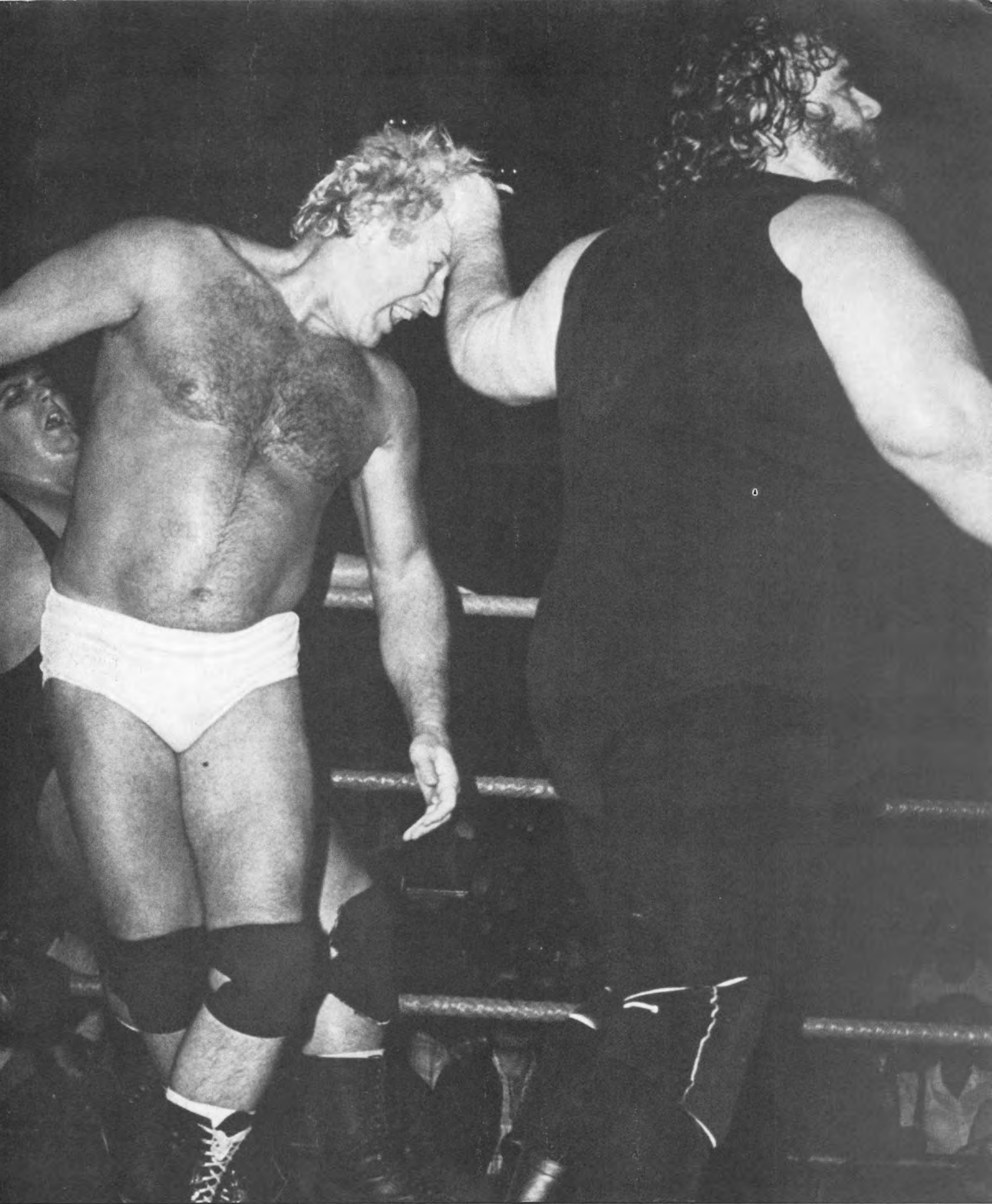
Rock songstress Cyndi Lauper has helped elevate wrestling to mass awareness. Her "rock 'n' wrestling" connections include the use of role playing wrestlers in her music videos and managing Wendi Richter to the Women's Championship.



JERRY "CRUSHER" BLACKWELL

AWA World Heavyweight Tag Team Champion (with Ken Patera).

Weight: 468 pounds. Hometown: Stone Mountain, Georgia. Best Move: The Big Splash. Titles Held:

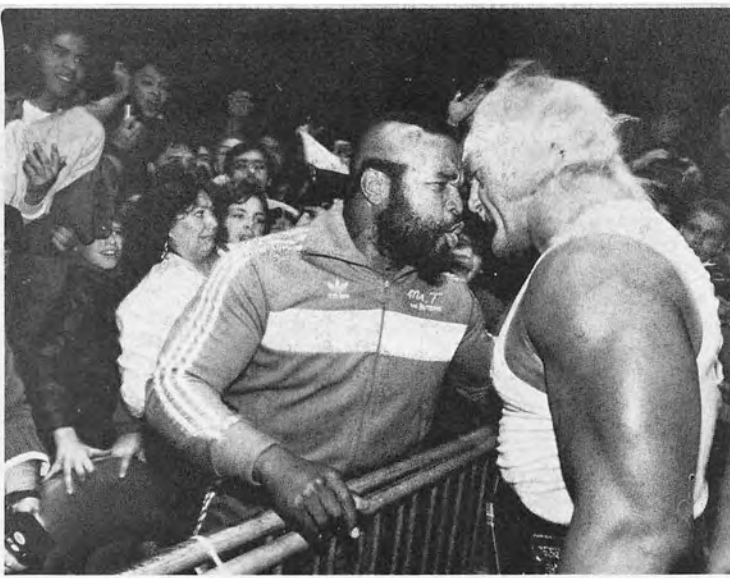


Blackwell is one of the best athletes in wrestling today. One of his favorite moves is the Flying Drop Kick, a move usually reserved for men much lighter than he. Early in his career, Blackwell was a rulebreaker, but after being betrayed by his manager, Sheik Adnan El'Kaissey, Blackwell aligned himself with law and order. Above, Blackwell grabs Nick Bockwinkel by the hair.



HULK HOGAN

Weight: 305 pounds. Hometown: Venice Beach, California. Best Move: Media Superstar. Titles Held: WWF Heavyweight Champion.

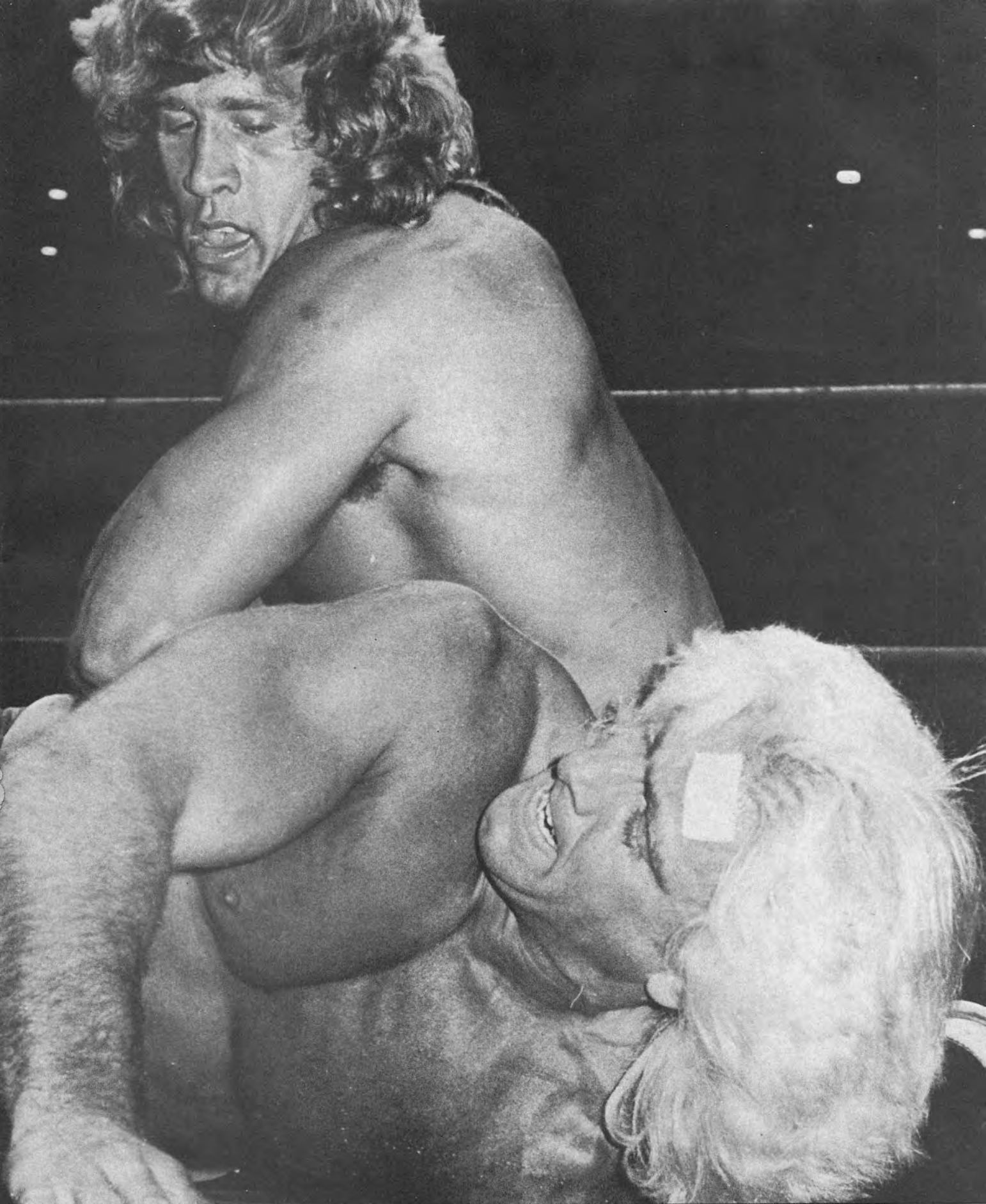


The most famous wrestler in the sport today, Hulk Hogan has been instrumental in catapulting wrestling to the forefront of the American consciousness. His superstar colleagues include Mr. T (top photo), Cyndi Lauper (middle photo), and Muhammad Ali and Liberace (bottom photo). But don't forget the real reason Hulk is a star—he knows how to win.



KERRY VON ERICH

Weight: 260 pounds. Hometown: Denton, Texas. Best Move: The Von Erich Claw. Titles Held: Texas Tag Team Champion (with Bruiser Brody), World Heavyweight Champion.



The Von Erchs are to wrestling what oil wells are to Texas. Kerry Von Erich is one of the best of the clan. He won the World Heavyweight Championship in May of 1984, but lost the title to Flair a mere two weeks later.



ANDRE THE GIANT

Weight: 497 pounds. Hometown: Grenoble, France. Best Move: The Body Slam. Titles Held: None.



It's no surprise that Andre the Giant is known as "The Eighth Wonder of the World." Standing 7'5" tall and weighing in at 497 pounds, he is both a mountain of a man and a top box-office attraction. He recently triumphed over his archenemy Big John Studd when he Body Slammed him at the "WrestleMania" extravaganza.



CARLOS COLON

Weight: 225 pounds. Hometown: San Isabela, Puerto Rico. Best Move: The Somersault Leap. Titles Held: Universal Champion, WWC Heavyweight Champion.



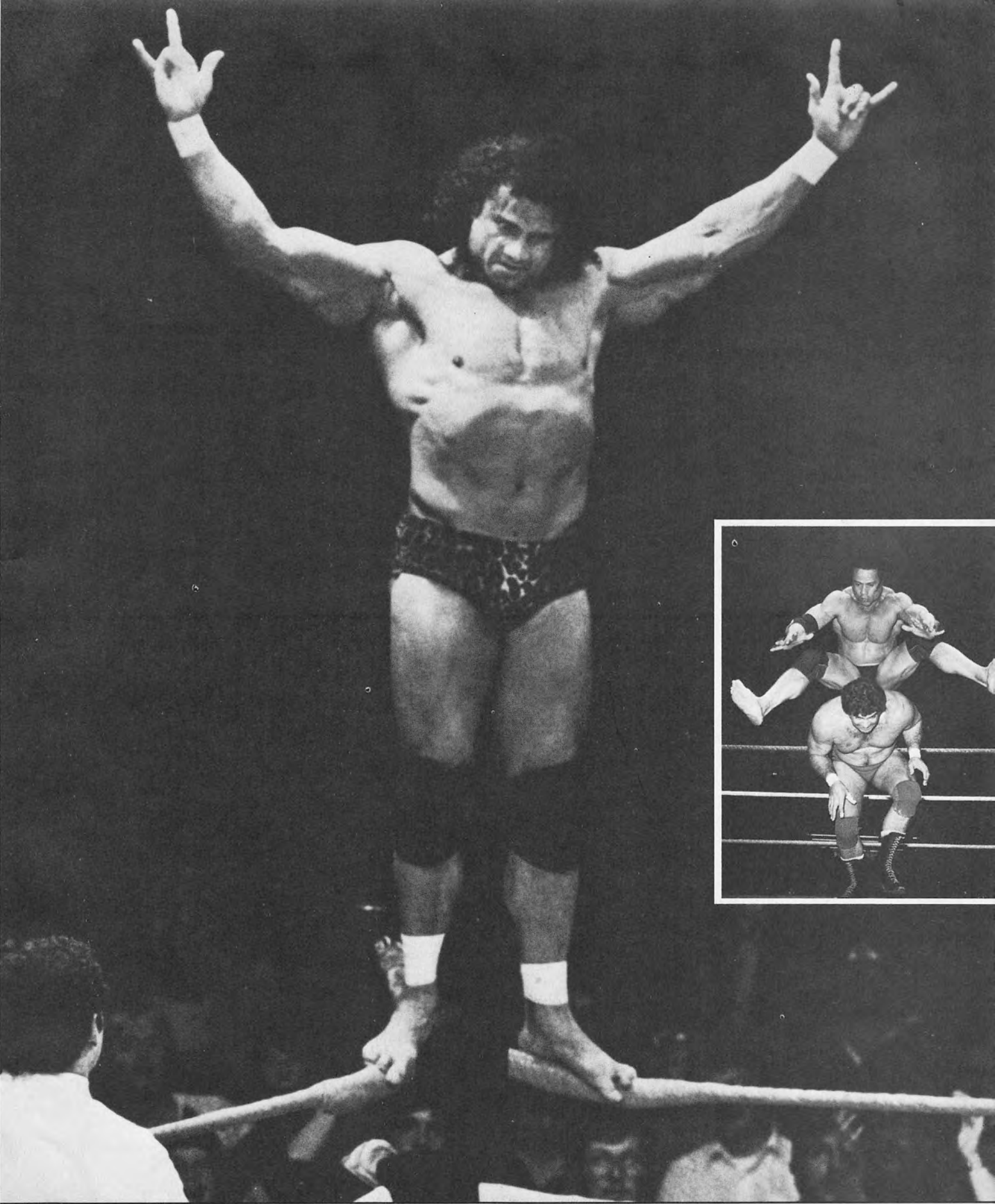
Although long a popular grappler in Puerto Rico, Carlos Colon became an international wrestling superstar on Thanksgiving night, 1983, when he defeated the terrifying Abdullah the Butcher. Following his victory, Carlos was wooed by many wrestling promoters in the U.S., but chose to continue wrestling mainly in Puerto Rico. Colon's next goal: to defeat NWA World Champion Ric Flair. From top left clockwise, Colon battles Crazy Luke Williams, Bruiser Brody, Jim Hansen, and Bruiser Brody.



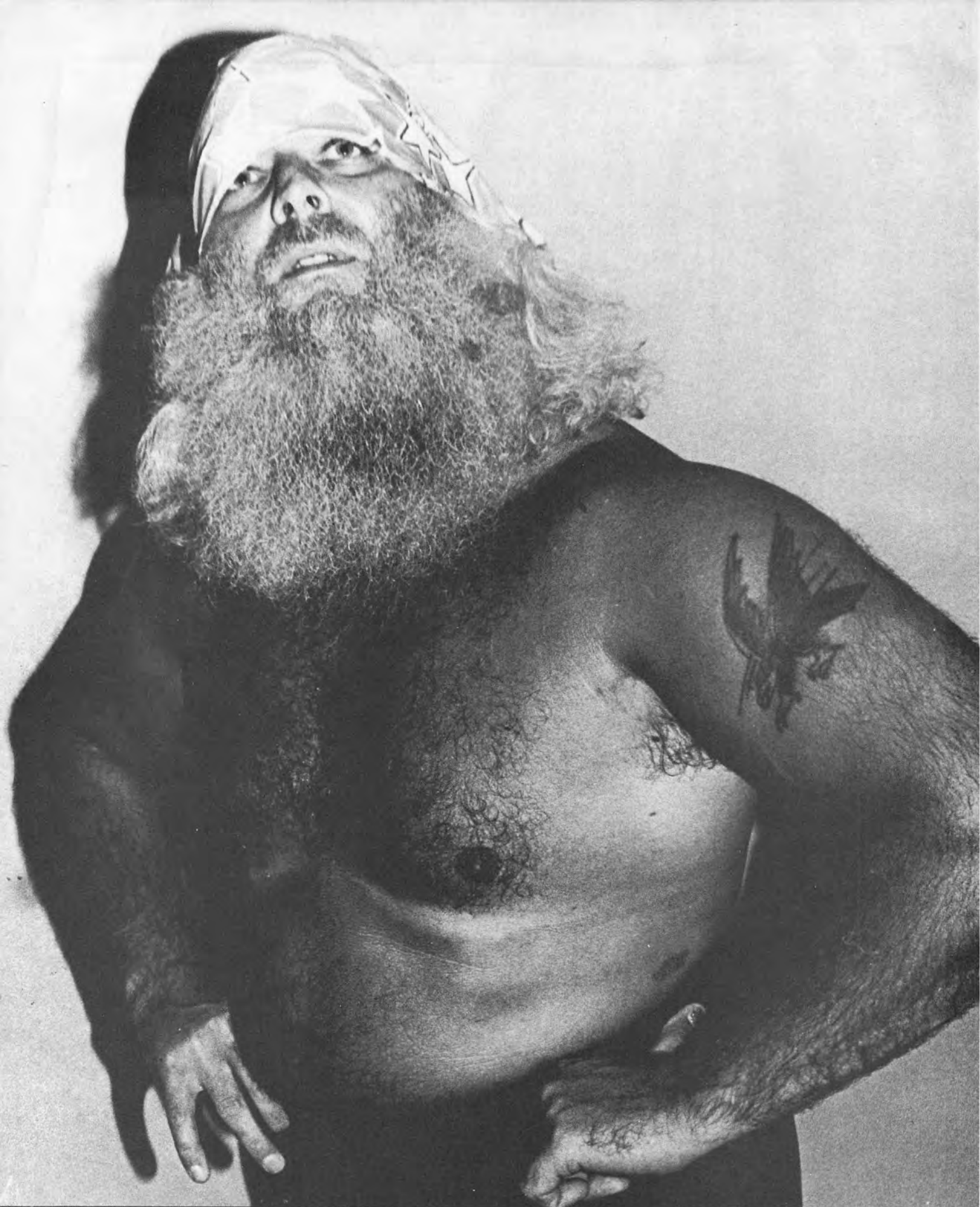
JIMMY "SUPERFLY" SNUKA

Pacific Northwest Heavyweight Champion, NWA World Tag Team Champion.

Weight: 260 pounds. Hometown: The Fiji Islands. Best Move: The Superfly Leap. Titles Held: U.S. Heavyweight Champion,

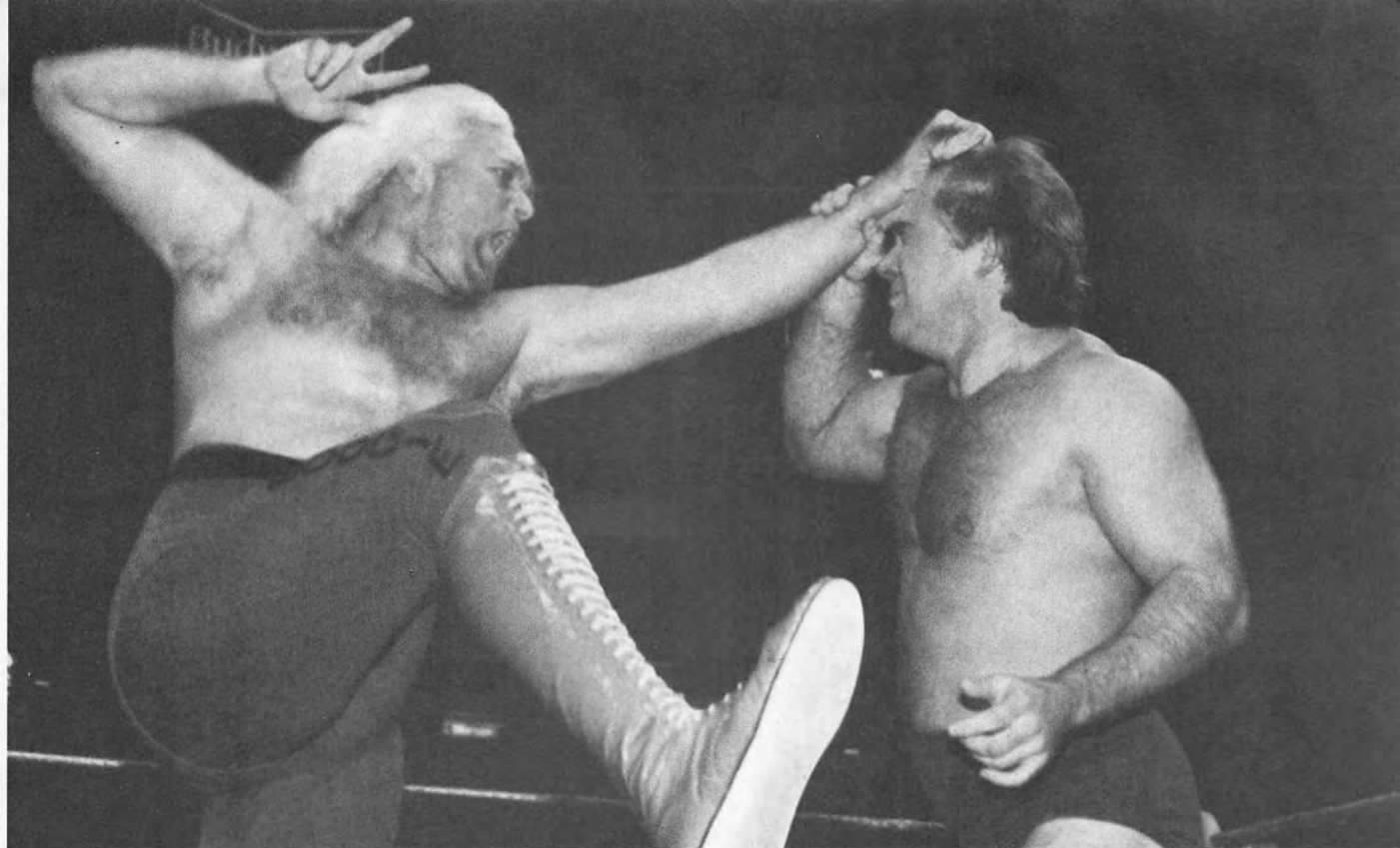


Jimmy "Superfly" Snuka boasts the most incredible move in professional wrestling—"The Superfly Leap." He starts the move by perching on the corner of the ring, and as soon as his hapless opponent is within range, he springs out into the air, attacking his victim from above (see insert).



JIMMY VALIANT

Weight: 240 pounds. Hometown: New York City, New York. Best Move: The Abdominal Stretch.
Titles Held: WWF Tag Team Champion (with Lucious Johnny Valiant).



"The Boogie Woogie Man" Jimmy Valiant started his professional career in Texas, but found he didn't have the patience to settle for the slow road to stardom, so he switched roles from Texas fan favorite to New York rulebreaker. Thanks to his skill in the ring (see above photos), Valiant is once again a favorite, and is currently out to defeat archenemy Paul Jones.

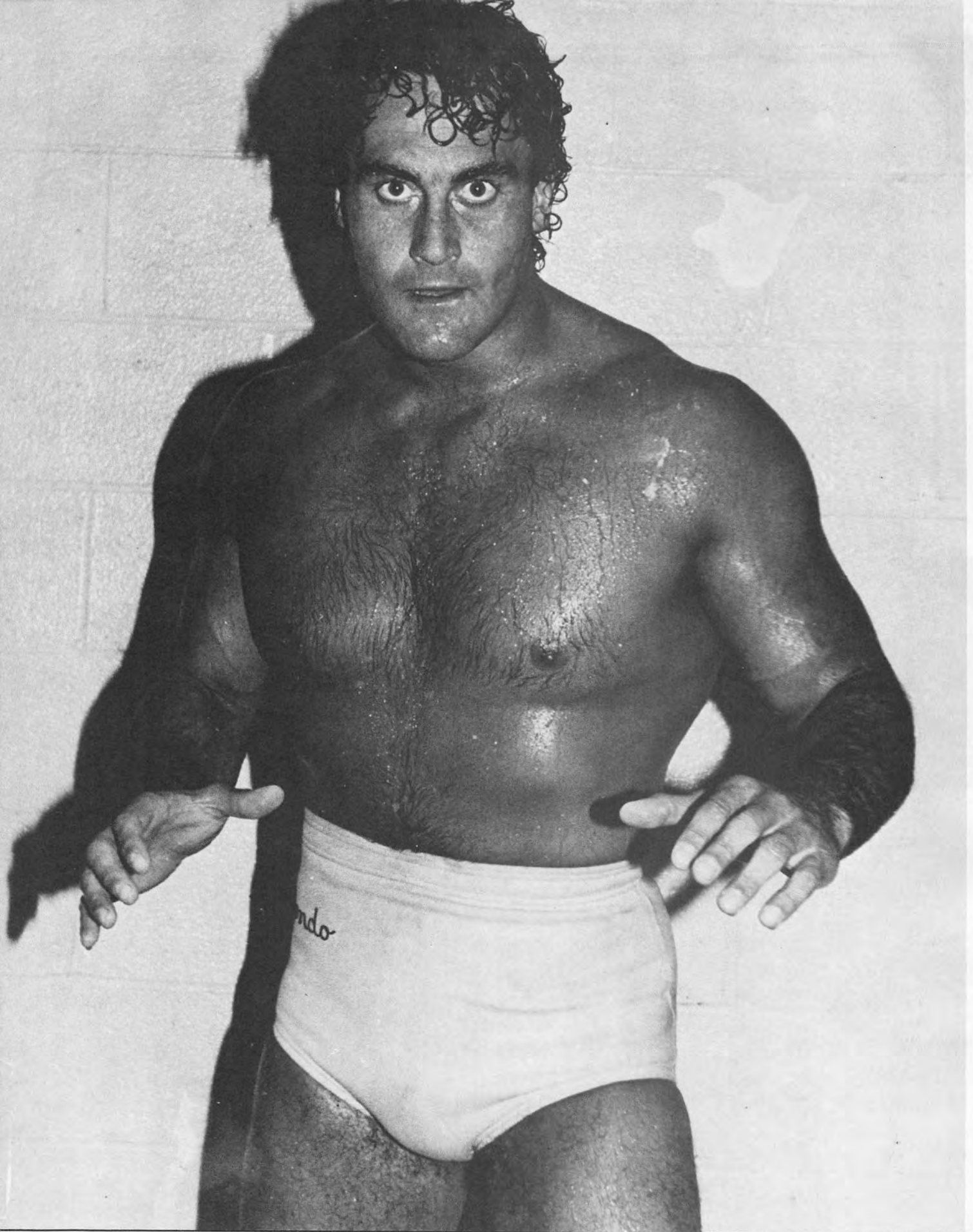


SERGEANT SLAUGHTER

Weight: 302 pounds. Hometown: Parris Island, South Carolina. Best Move: The Cobra Clutch. Titles Held: Mid-Atlantic Champion, U.S. Champion.

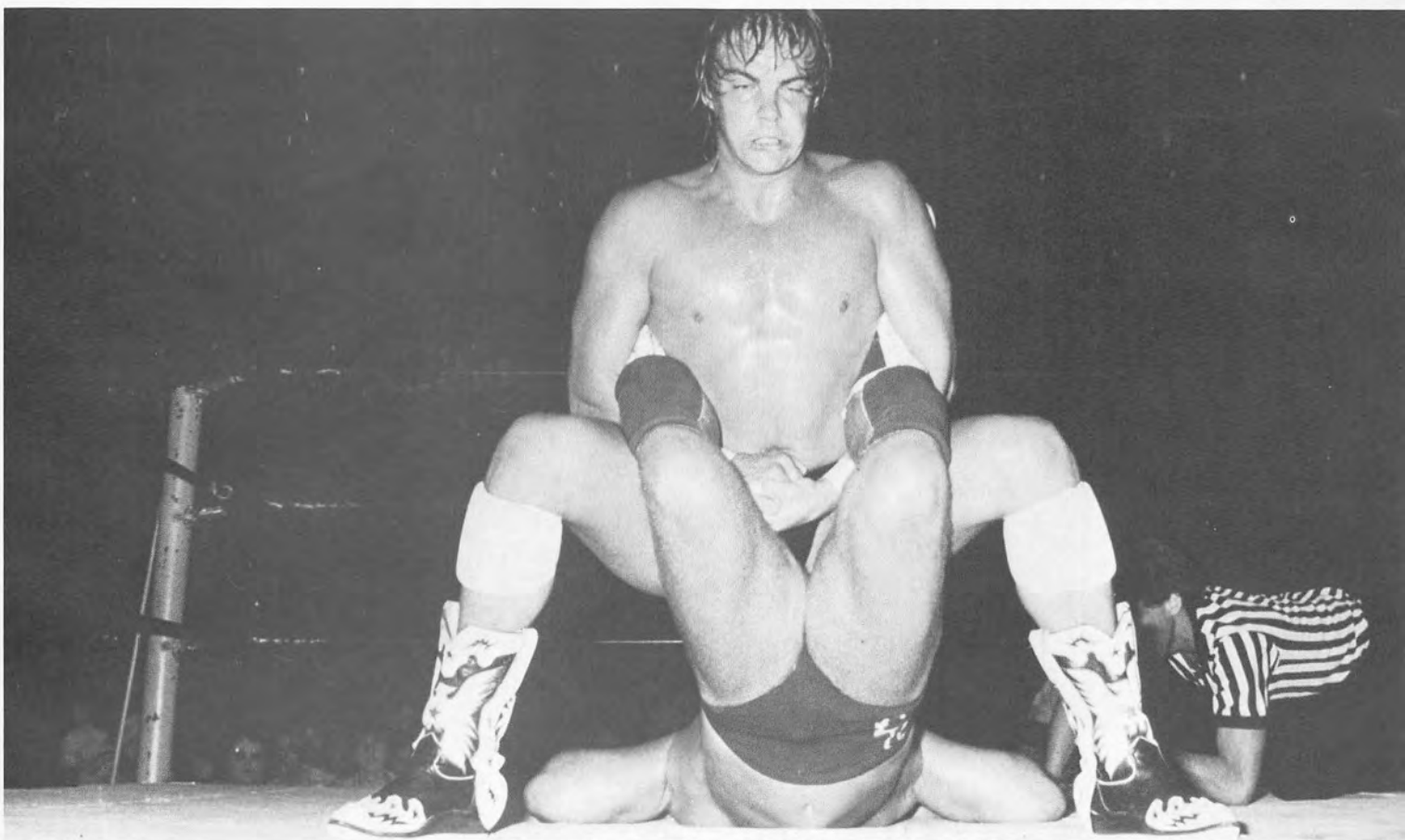


Sergeant Slaughter in the ring: a patriotic madman. Slaughter went from rulebreaker to fan favorite by turning the wrestling ring into an arena for international political struggles. His defense of the Red, White, and Blue in the face of scheming Arabs and Russians has made him one of the most popular men in the sport.

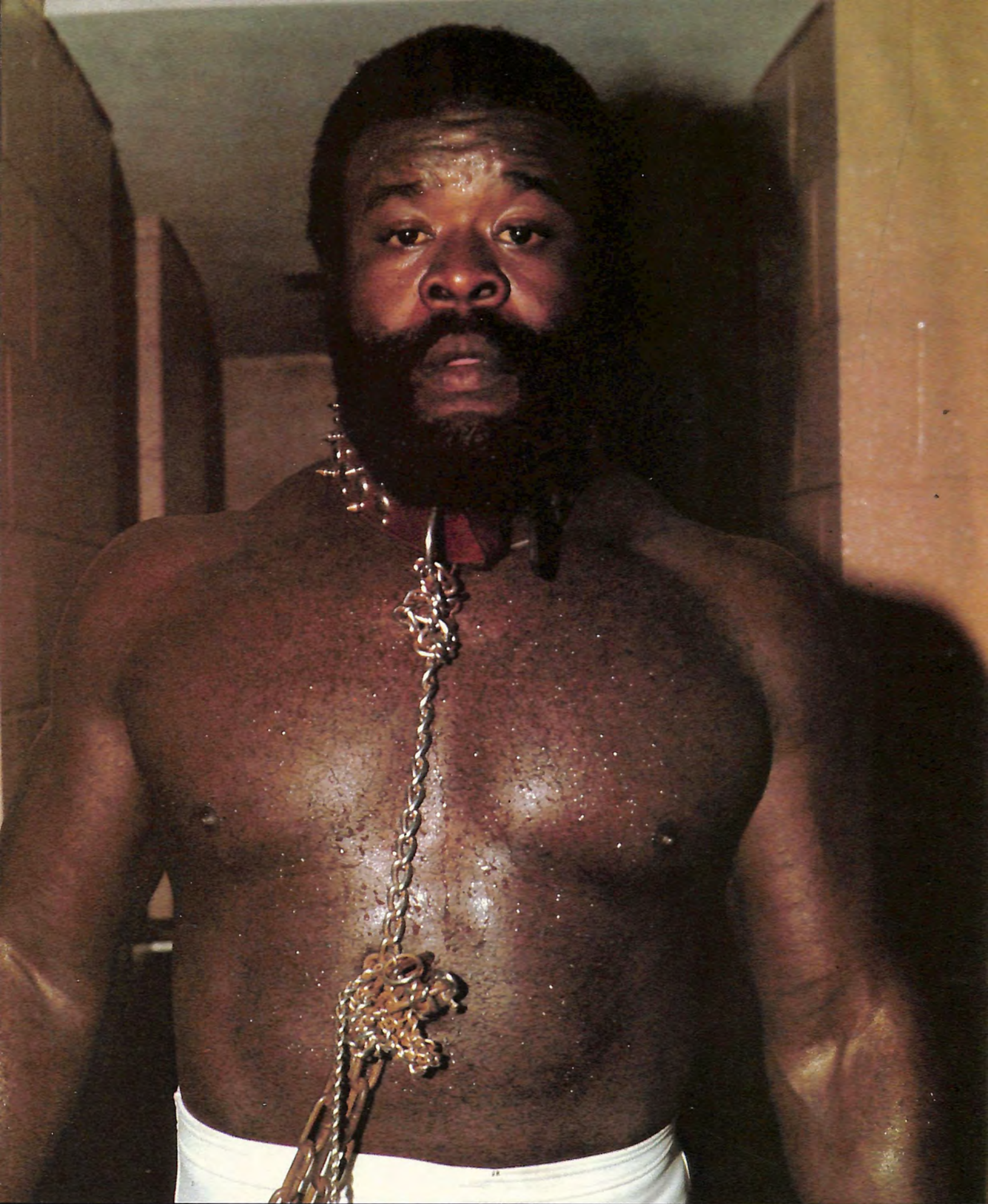


MIKE ROTUNDO

Weight: 240 pounds. Hometown: Syracuse, New York. Best Move: The Crab Backbreaker. Titles Held: Southern Heavyweight Champion, U.S. Tag Team Champion, WWF Tag Team Champion.

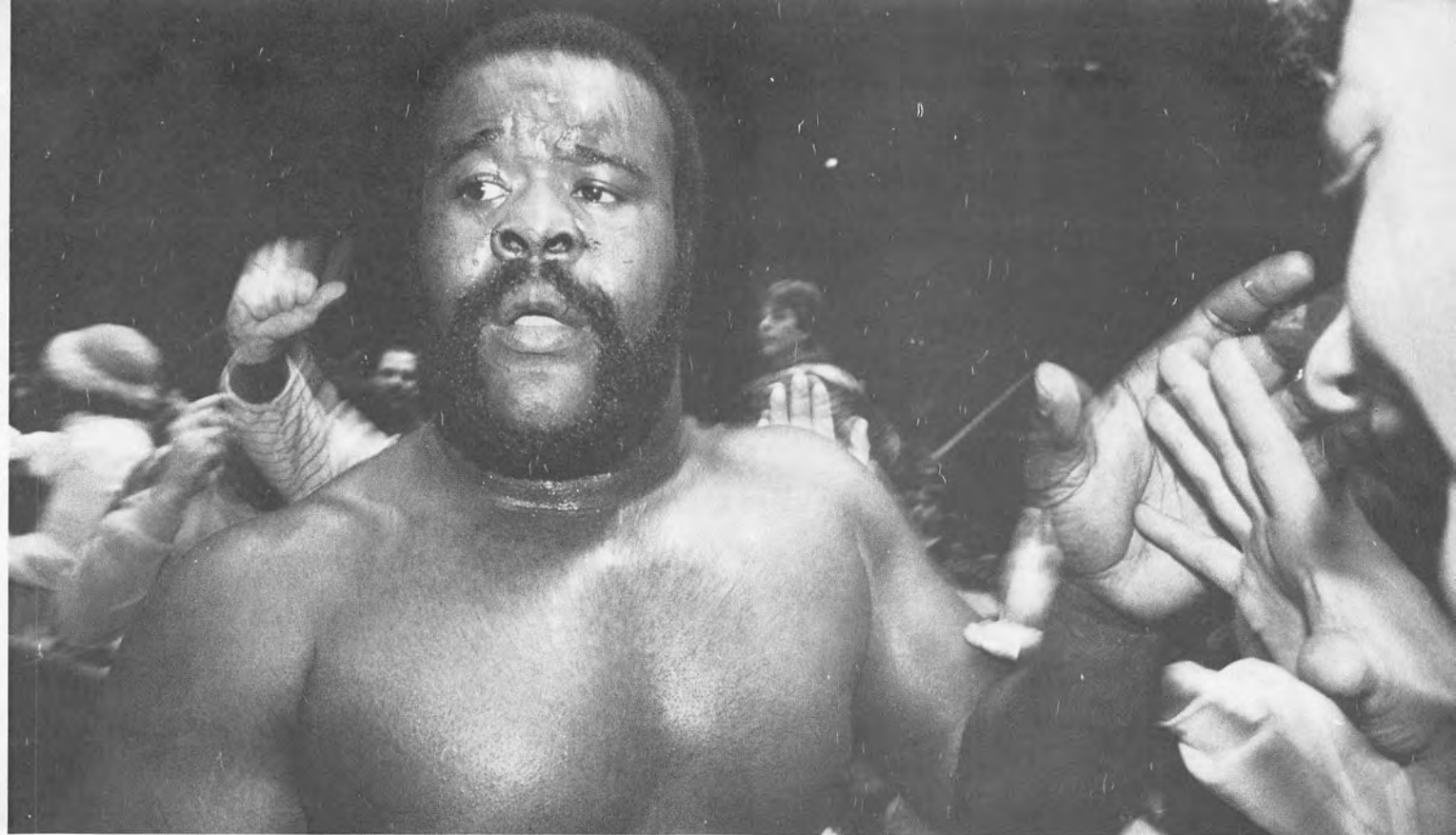


Mike Rotundo is one of the most promising young grapplers in the sport. He's already captured the Mid-Atlantic TV title and the Southern title, and given his determination and ambition, this soft-spoken man seems destined for big things. In the top photo he is pictured with his tag team partner, Barry Windham.

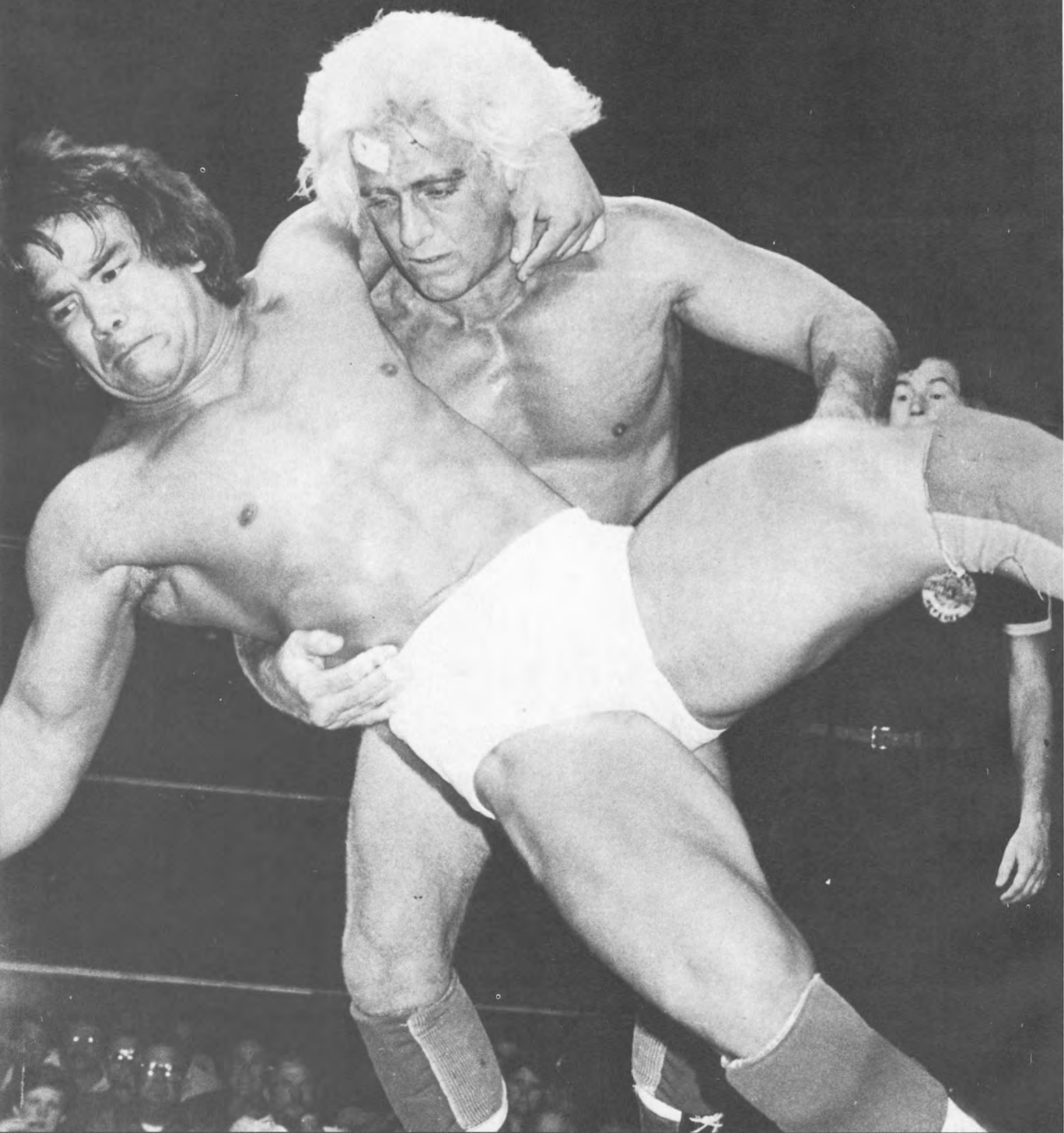


JUNKYARD DOG

Weight: 260 pounds. Hometown: New Orleans, Louisiana. Best Move: Sheer Brute Force. Titles Held: North American Heavyweight Champion, Mid-South Tag Team Champion.



The Junkyard Dog never fails to generate action and excitement. Although he's a favorite with the fans, he won't be satisfied with himself until he captures Greg Valentine's Intercontinental title. If the Dog keeps throwing punches like the one in the bottom photograph above, Greg had better look out!



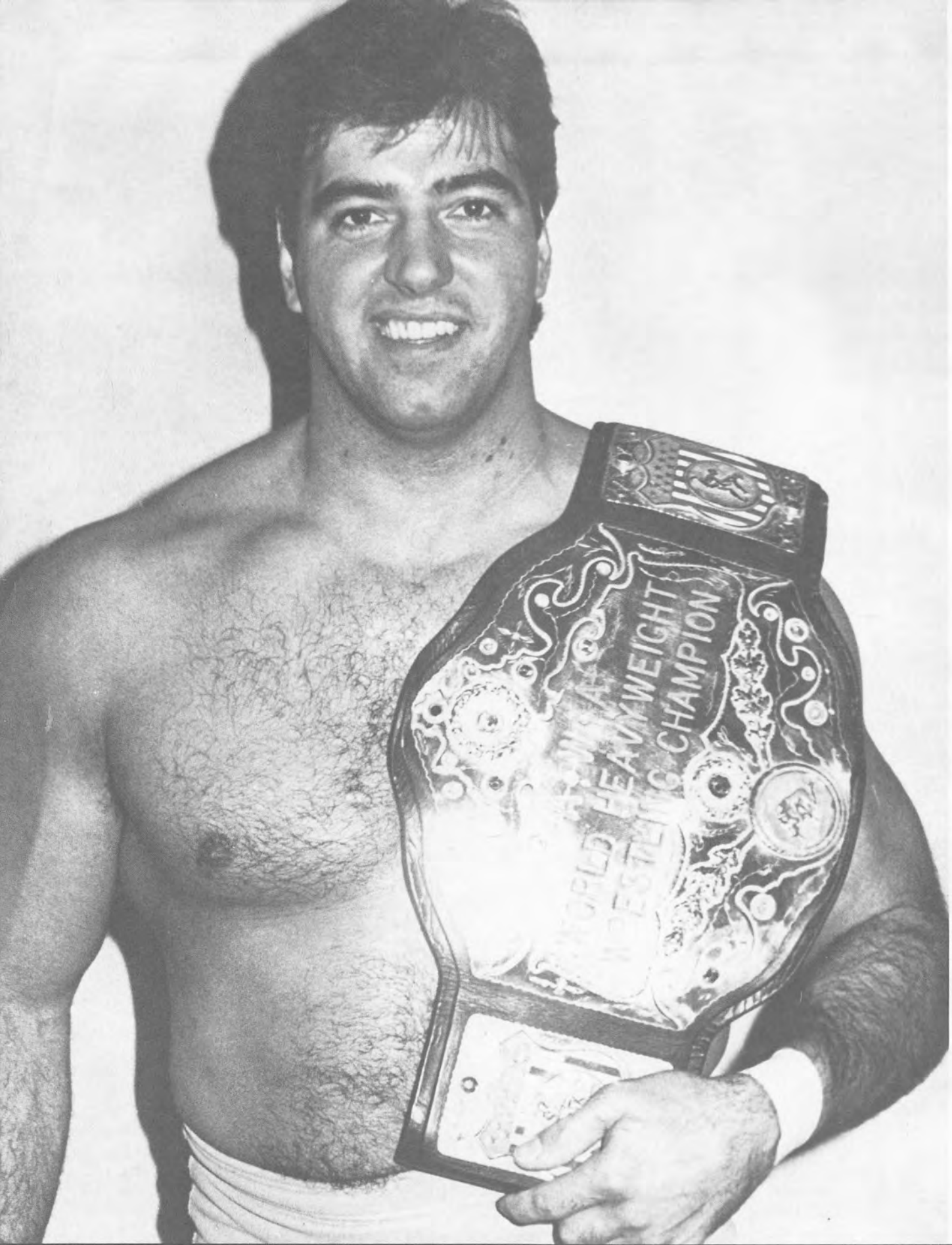
RICKY STEAMBOAT

weight Champion.

Weight: 225 pounds. Hometown: Honolulu, Hawaii. Best Move: The Drop Kick. Titles Held: World Tag Team Champion, U.S. Heavyweight Champion, Mid-Atlantic Heavy-



Dynamic, exciting, and sensational are just a few of the choice adjectives that have been used to describe "the Happy Hawaiian," Ricky Steamboat. His timing is perfect, his leaps are astonishing, and his drop kicks—superb. He and his current tag team partner, Jimmy Snuka, are well on their way to becoming one of the most popular tag teams in WWF history. At top left and right, Steamboat battles Ric Flair. Just above, he and Youngblood Dropkick Toa Kamata.

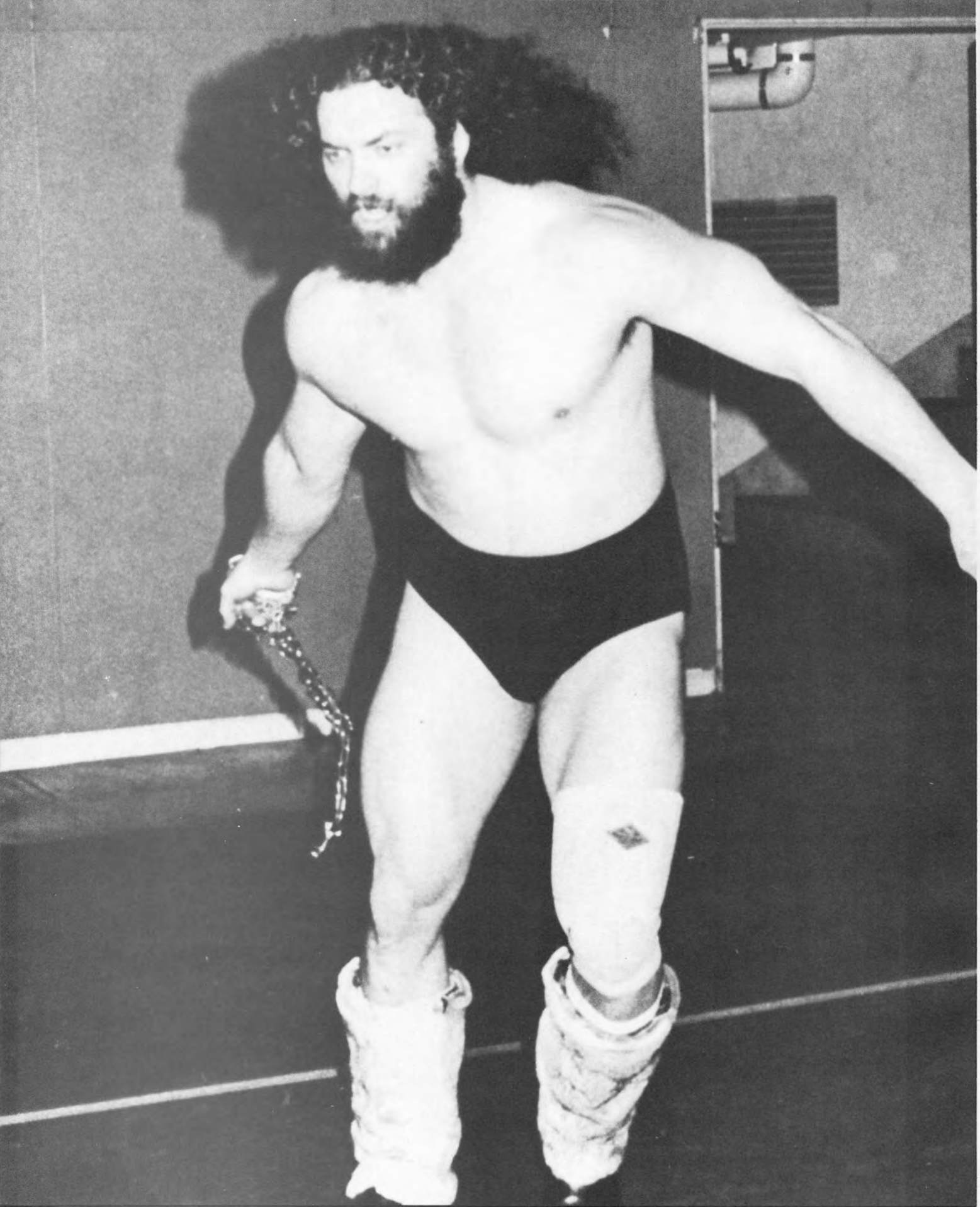


RICK MARTEL

Weight: 236 pounds. Hometown: Quebec City, Canada. Best Move: All-Around Athlete. Titles Held: Canadian Champion, Australian Commonwealth Champion, Australian Tag Team Champion, Georgia Tag Team Champion, Hawaiian Heavyweight Champion, Pacific Northwest Champion, WWF Tag Team Champion (with Tony Garea), AWA World Heavyweight Champion.



Rick Martel has defended his World Heavyweight Championship against such attackers as Gorgeous Jimmy Garvin, King Tonga, and Masked Superstar. He puts his belt on the line against any worthy opponents. "I'm not going to back down from anyone," he says. "If I did, I wouldn't feel worthy of the championship."



BRUISER BRODY

Weight: 285 pounds. Hometown: San Antonio, Texas. Best Move: The Neck Lock. Titles Held: Texas Champion, Missouri Champion.

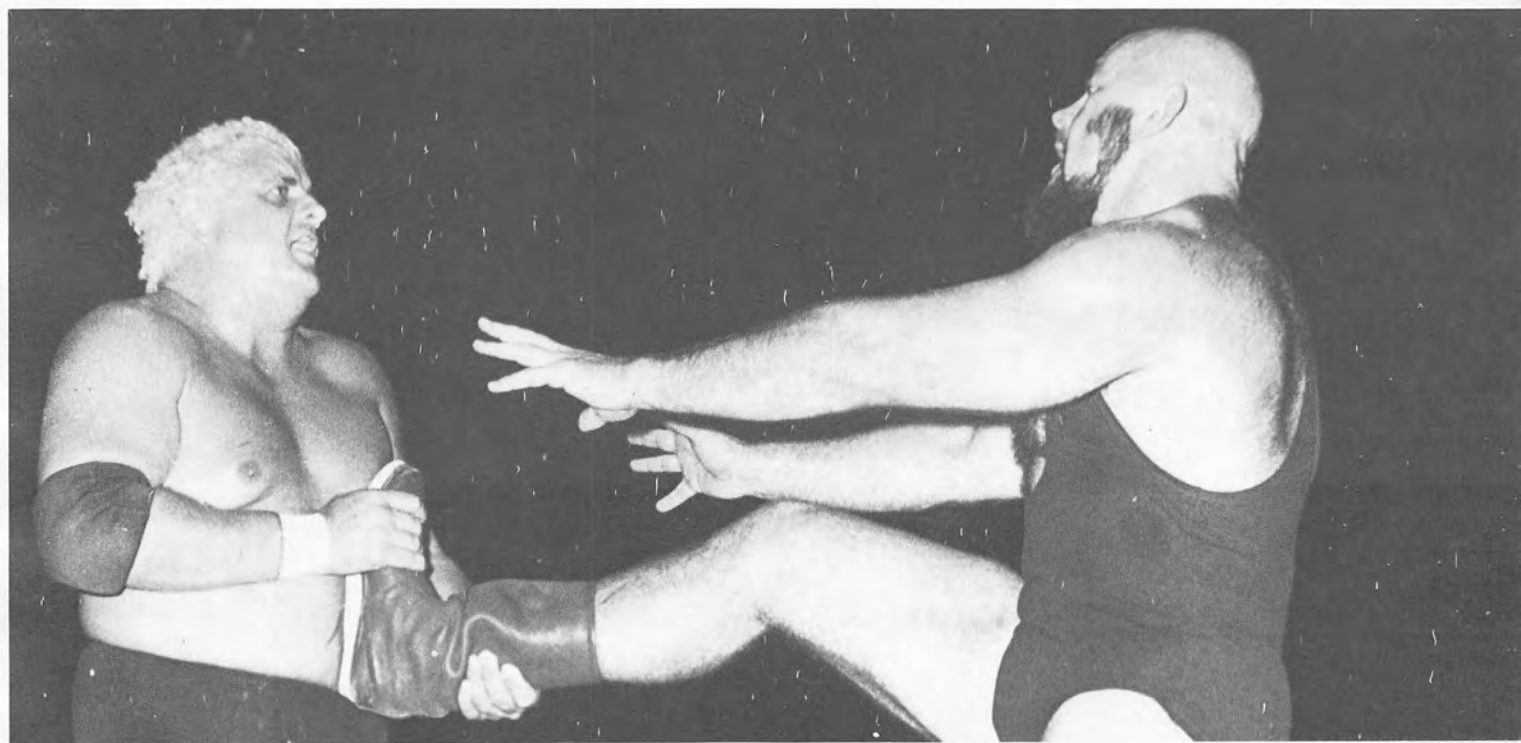


A giant of a man, the 6'8", 320 pound Bruiser Brody is a dominant force on the wrestling scene. Here, he performs a Neck Lock on his opponent, Jim Brunzell.

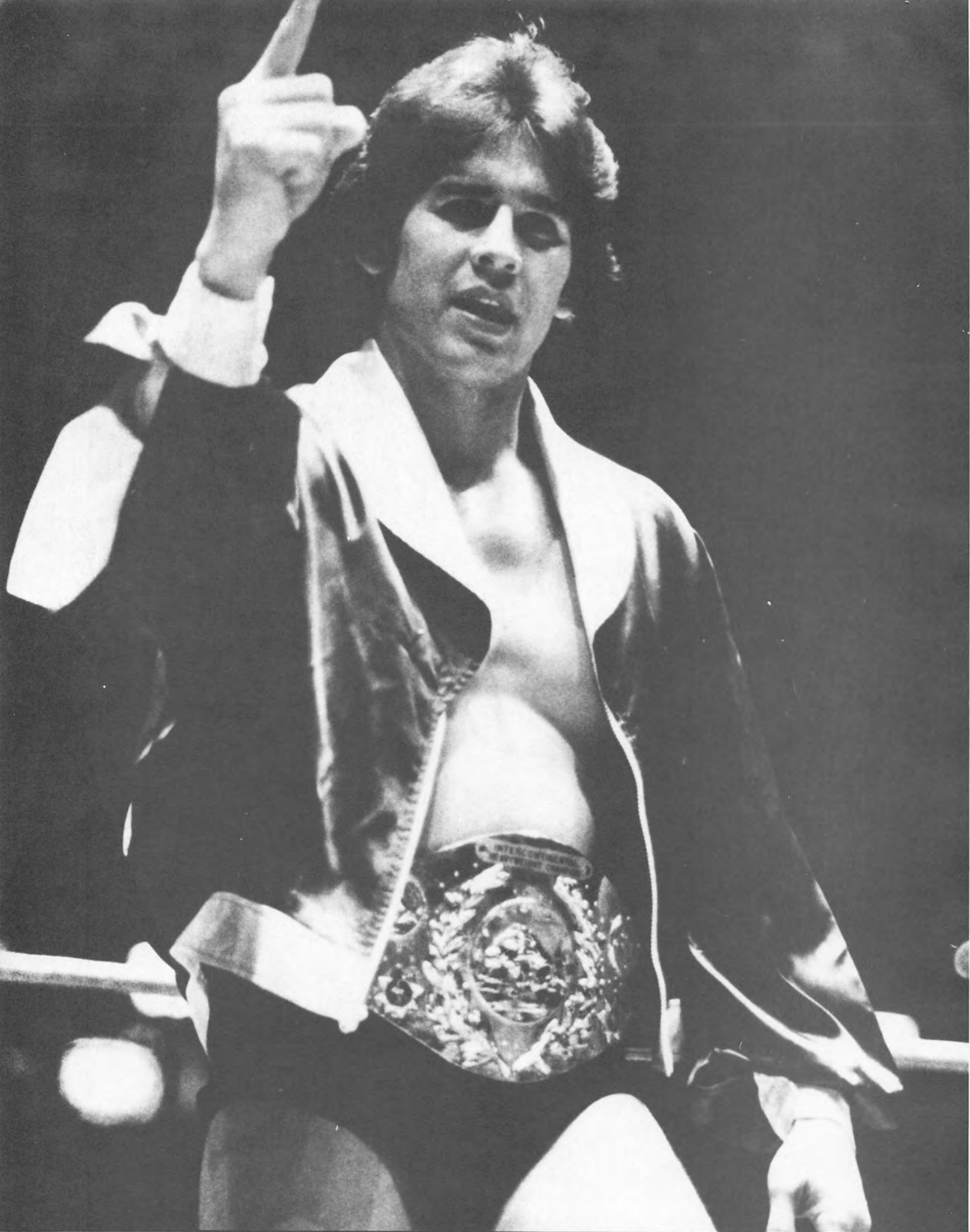


DUSTY RHODES

Weight: 301 pounds. Hometown: Austin, Texas. Best Move: The Bionic Elbow. Titles Held: NWA World Champion, WWF Champion.

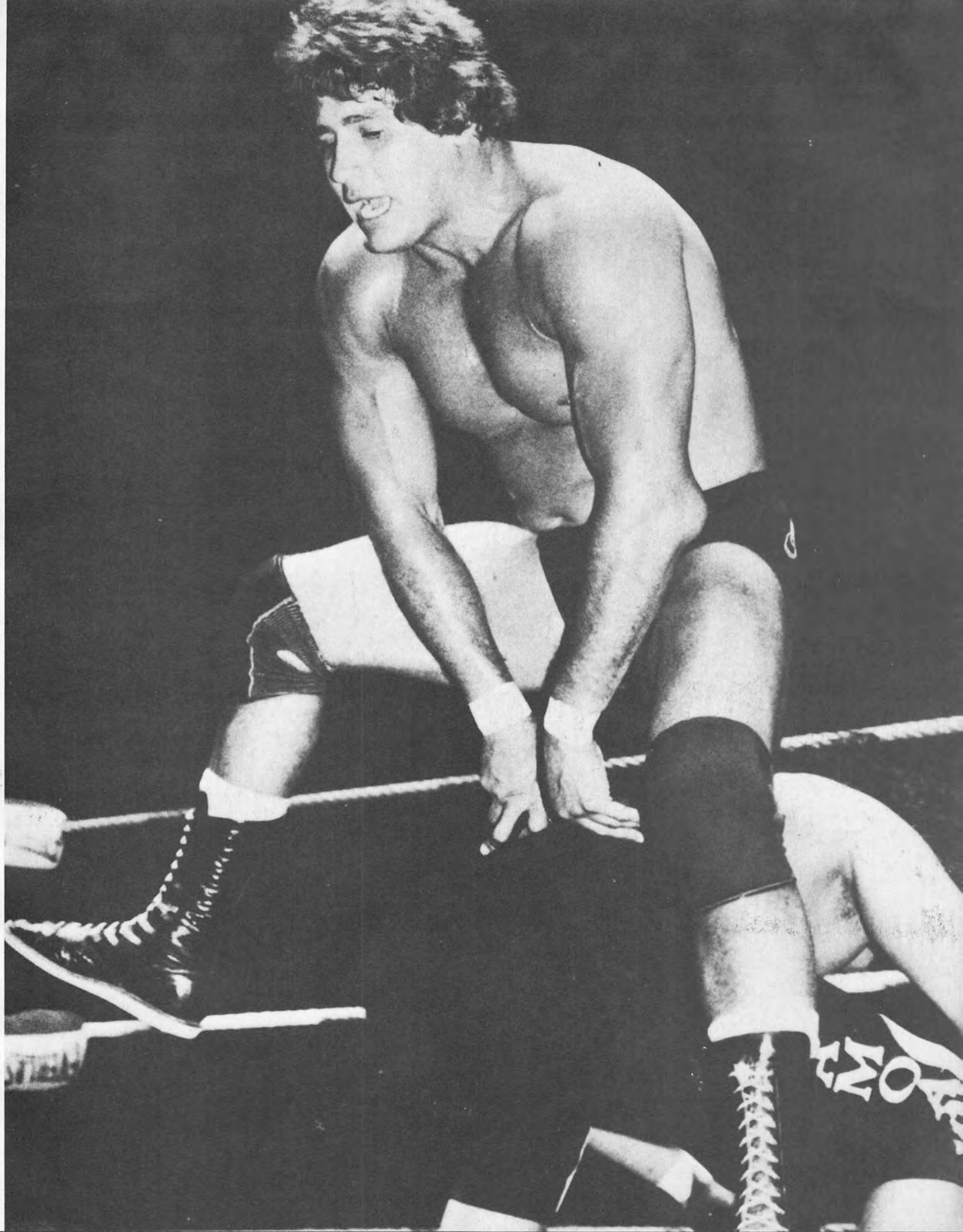


As a young wrestler, Dusty Rhodes had the misfortune to break the spine of an opponent in the ring. Ever since this tragic event, Rhodes has been trying to atone for his sins, changing from a cruel rulebreaker to a respected law-and-order man. At top, Ric Flair has Dusty in a tough spot. Just above, Dusty tries to twist Ivan Koloff's leg.

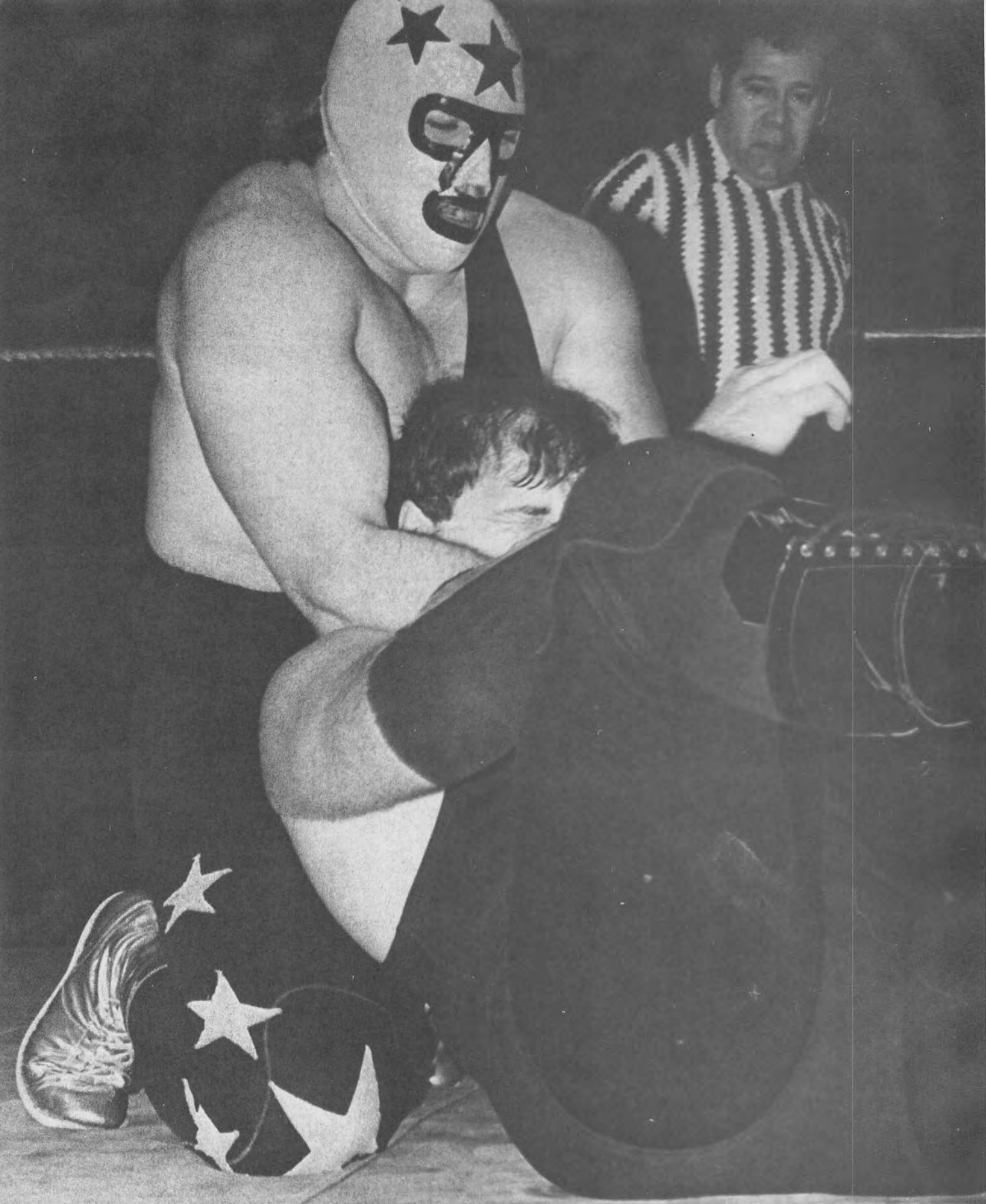


TITO SANTANA

Weight: 245 pounds. Hometown: Mission, Texas. Best Move: His Hot Temper. Titles Held: WWF Intercontinental Champion, West Texas Tag Team Champion, WWF Tag Team Champion.



Tito Santana played one season with the Kansas City Chiefs before trying his hand at professional wrestling. During the past few years, he's developed into one of the most adept, skillful scientific wrestlers in the sport today.



MASKED SUPERSTAR

King Kong Bundy), NWA Tag Team Champion (with Paul Jones), National Heavyweight Champion.

Weight: 265 pounds. Hometown: Atlanta, Georgia. Best Move: The Cobra Clutch. Titles Held: Mid-Atlantic Tag Team Champion, National Tag Team Champion (with

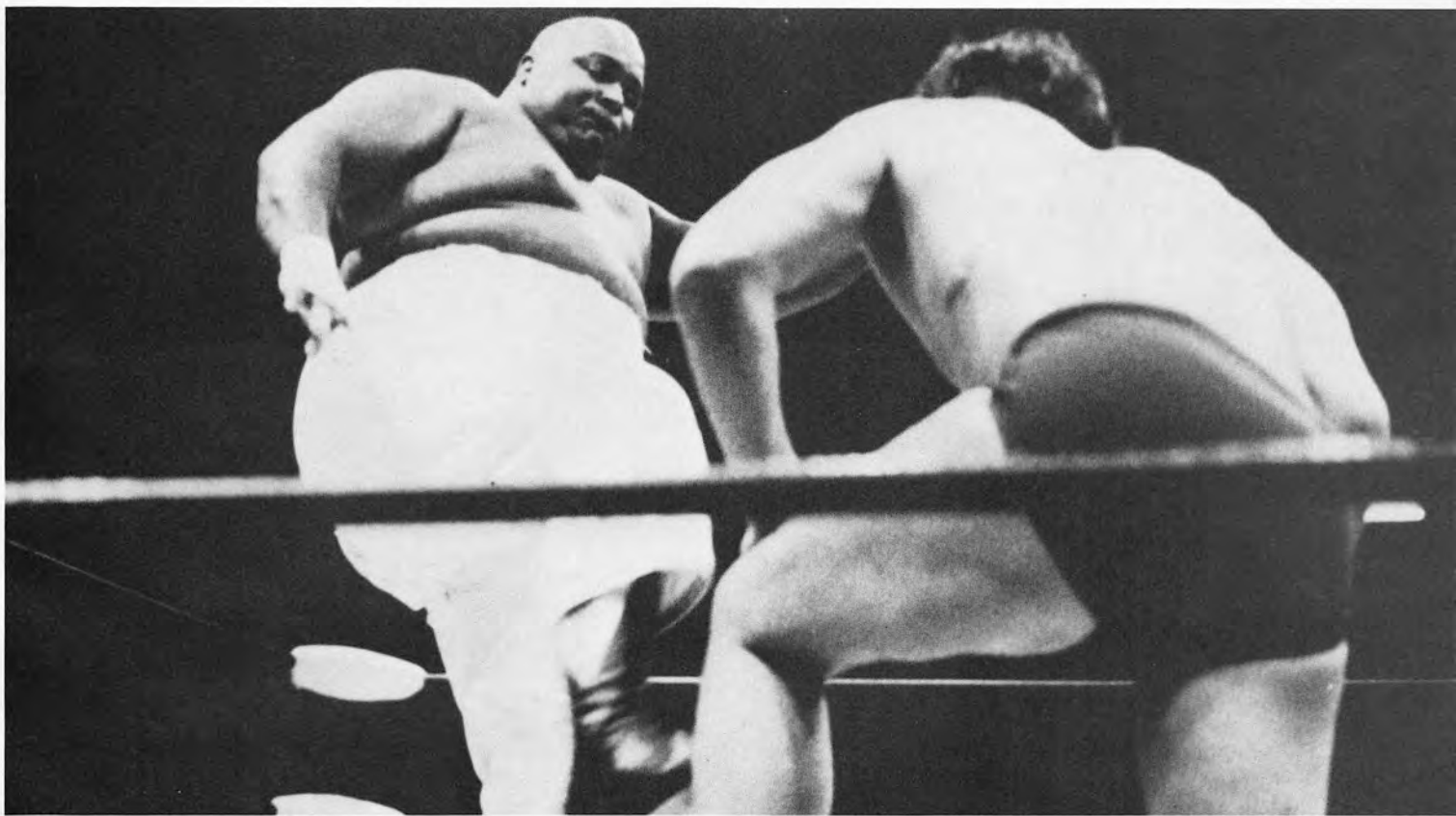


The Masked Superstar puts the final touches on his poor victim. Although he has become quite a fan favorite, no one knows his true identity. He will only show his face when he becomes the heavyweight champion.



ABDULLAH THE BUTCHER

Weight: 360 pounds. Hometown: The Sudan. Best Move: Using Foreign Objects. Titles Held: WWC Carribean Champion.



You won't see a display of wrestling skills when Abdullah the Butcher enters the ring. What you will see is blood. His maniacal bloodlust will turn any wrestling match into a horror show. He's also "the Master of the Foreign Object," and doesn't miss a chance to maim and destroy with an instrument of torture.

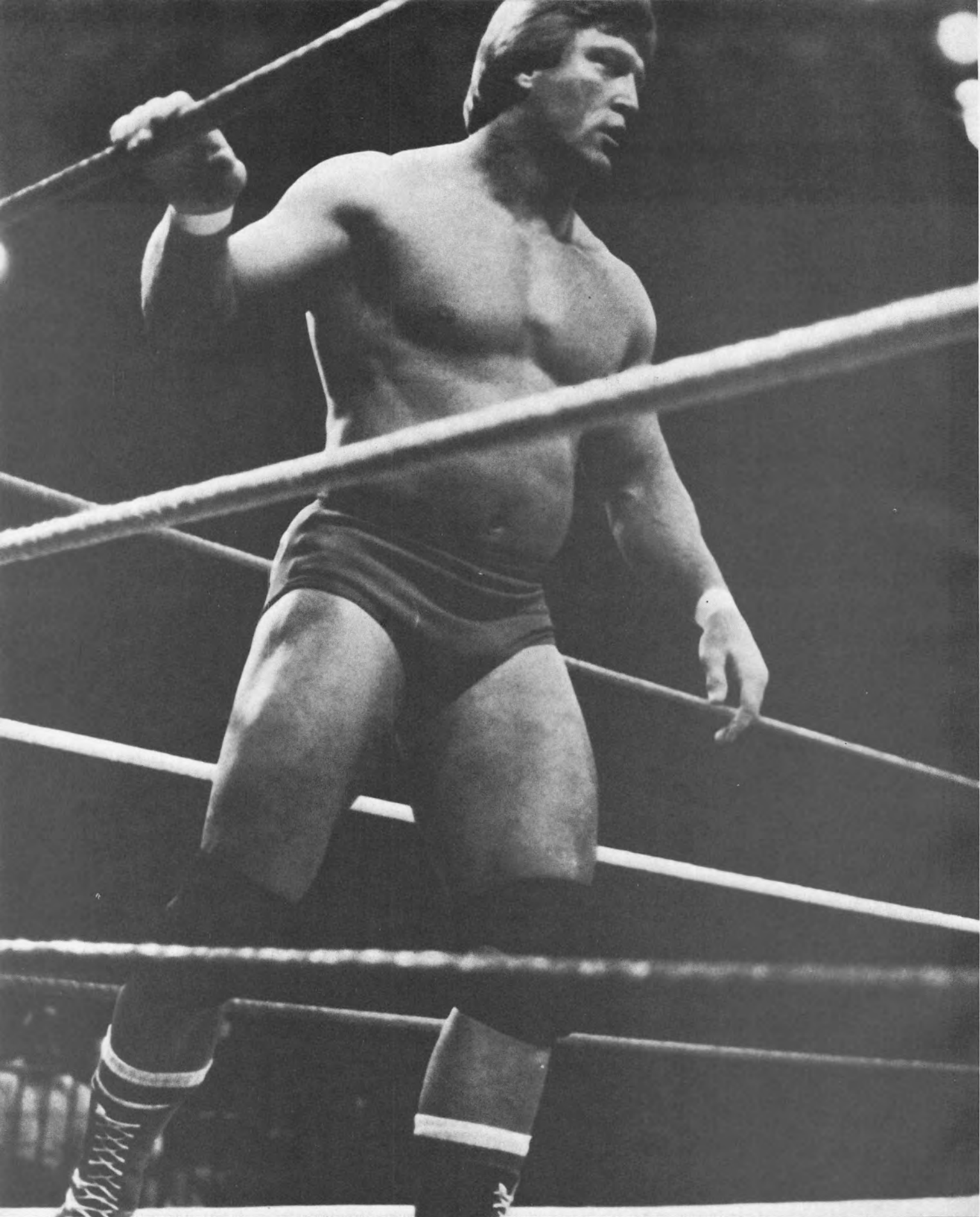


KAMALA, THE UGANDAN GIANT

Weight: 440 pounds. Hometown: Kapala, Uganda.
Best Move: Ugandan Belly Flop. Titles Held: None.

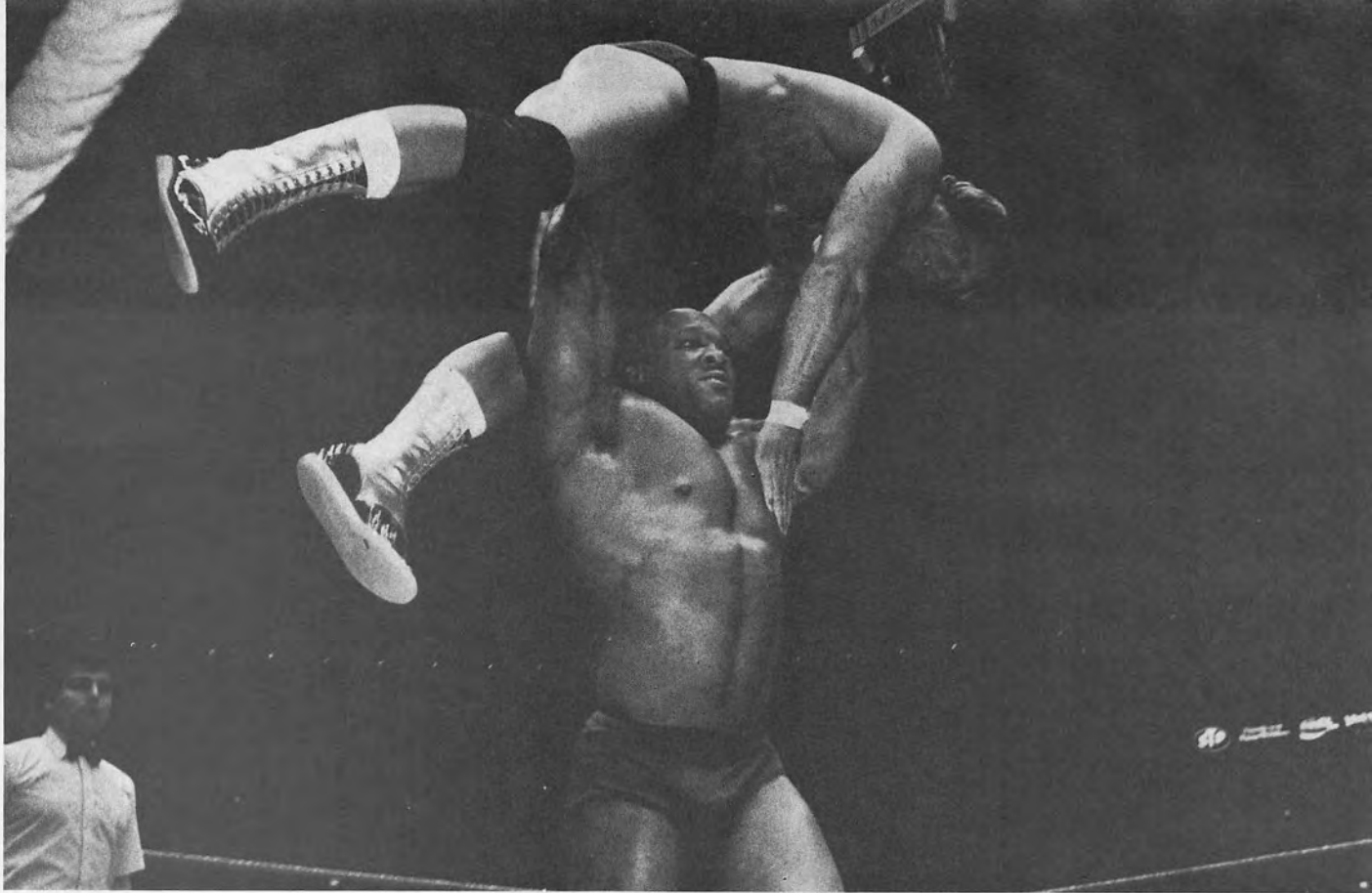


Kamala is one of the most intimidating forces in wrestling today. Many opponents are too terrified to tangle with Kamala alone, and in handicap matches, the giant Ugandan is regularly pitted against two opponents at a time. His valet Friday (see color photo) is the only man Kamala can communicate with.

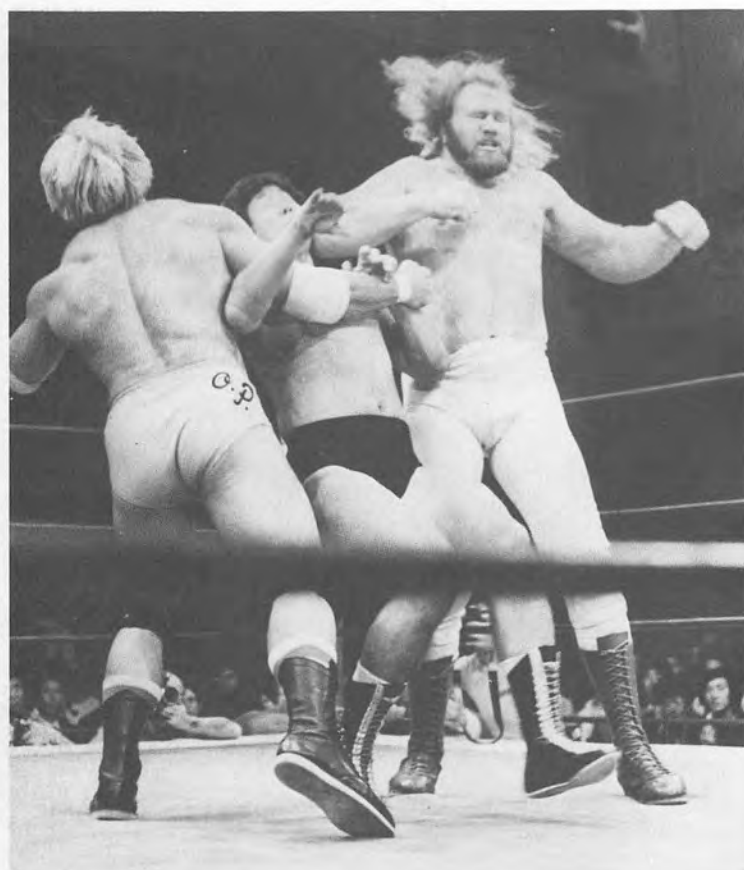
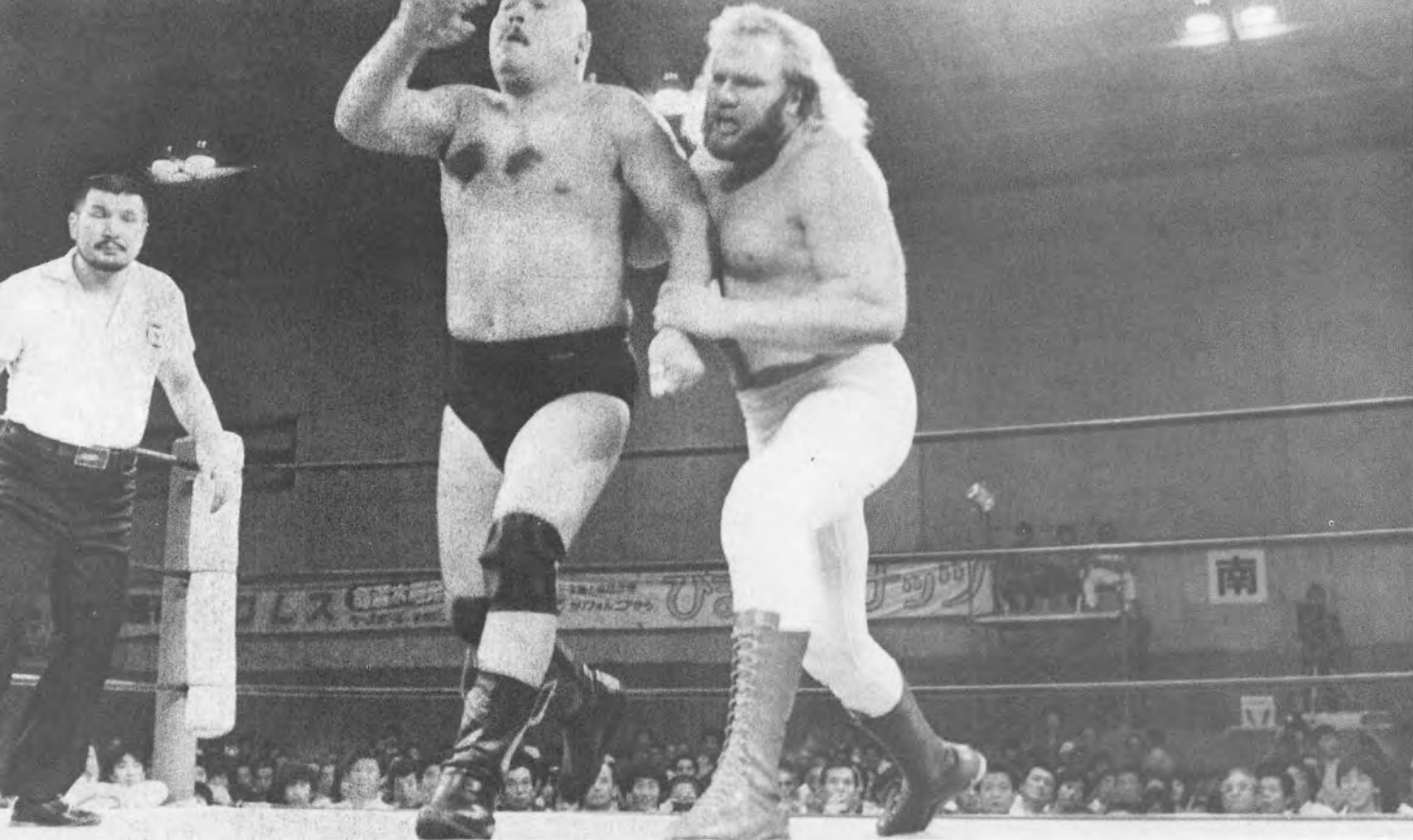


PAUL "MR. WONDERFUL" ORNDORFF

Weight: 235 pounds. Hometown: Brandon, Florida. Best Move: The Piledriver. Titles Held: National Heavyweight Champion, Georgia Heavyweight Champion, North American Champion.

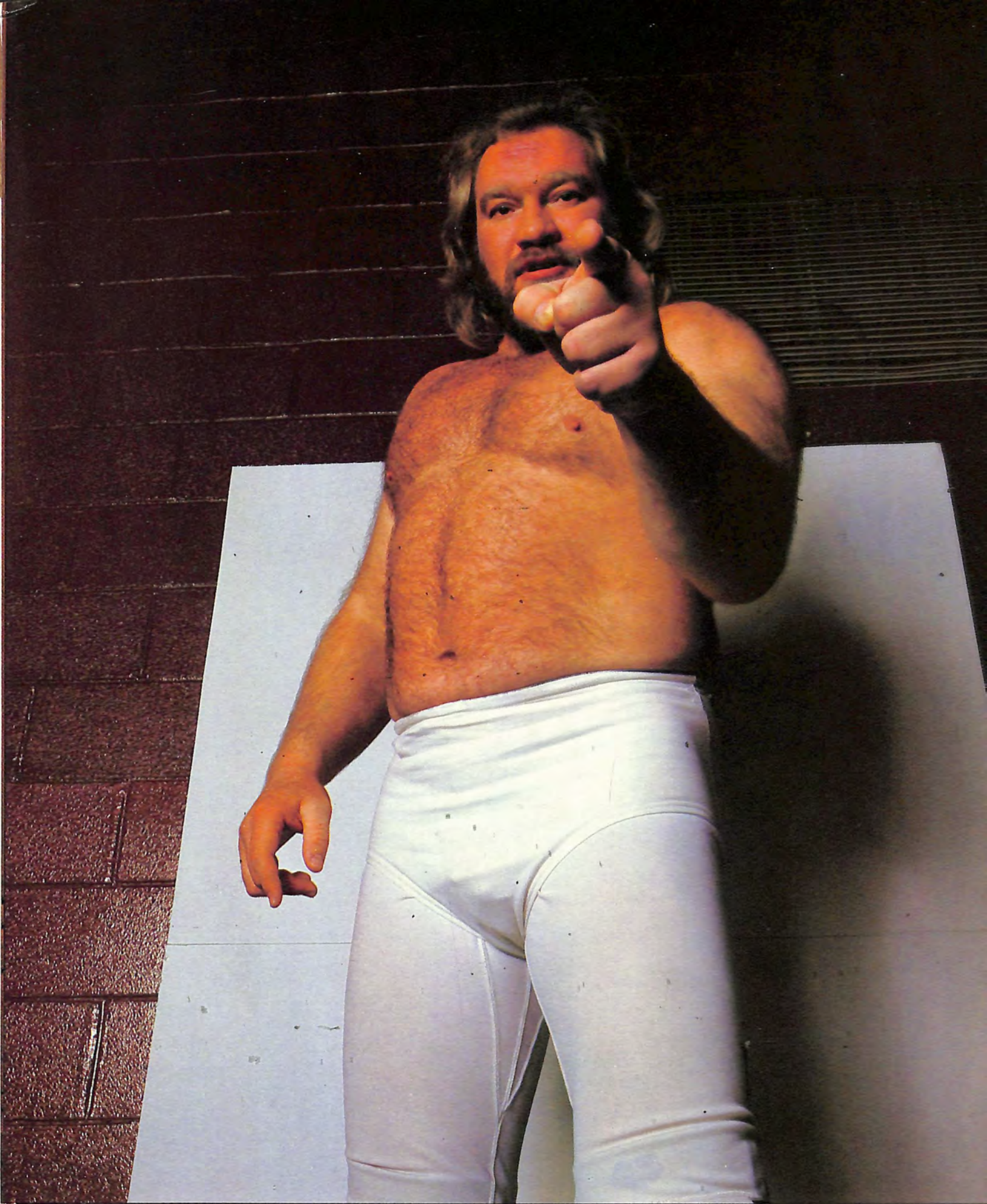


Paul "Mr. Wonderful" Orndorff is one of the most egotistical grapplers around, although being held up in the air by his opponent must hurt his pride a little bit (top photo). A gifted athlete with an incredible physique, Orndorff also boasts a robe collection second in quality and glitter only to Ric Flair's.



BIG JOHN STUDD

Weight 364 pounds. Hometown: Los Angeles, California. Best Move: The Reverse Bear Hug.
Titles Held: Mid-Atlantic Tag-Team Champion (with the Masked Superstar).

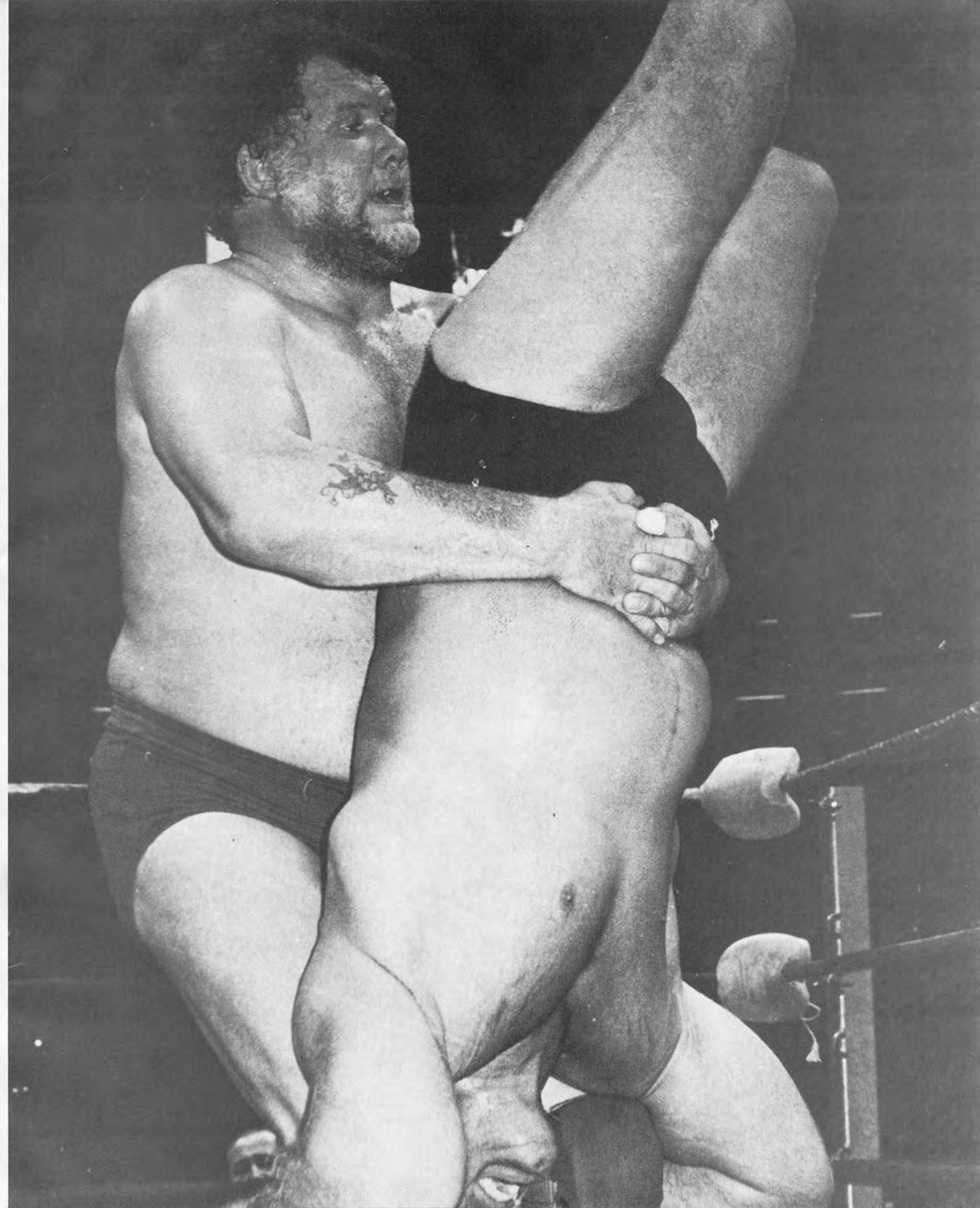


Studd's greatest asset is his height, which makes it almost impossible for any normal-sized person to scoop him up and slam him to the mat. Once Studd picks up an opponent and wraps his mammoth arms around his victim's torso, the poor man is done for.



HARLEY RACE

Weight: 260 pounds. Hometown: Kansas City, Missouri. Best Move: The Hanging Suplex. Titles Held: NWA World Champion.



In a 1969 chain match with Terry Funk, Harley Race lost 15 percent of the vision in his left eye. As a result, Race has had to develop an especially keen sense of intuition, almost a sixth sense. Now, Harley can detect a move three seconds before you've thought about it, and that, more than anything else, is the key to his success. Above, Race Piledrives Ric Flair.



GORGEOUS JIMMY GARVIN

Weight: 225 pounds. Hometown: Tampa, Florida. Best Move: The Clawhold. Titles Held: World Heavyweight Champion.

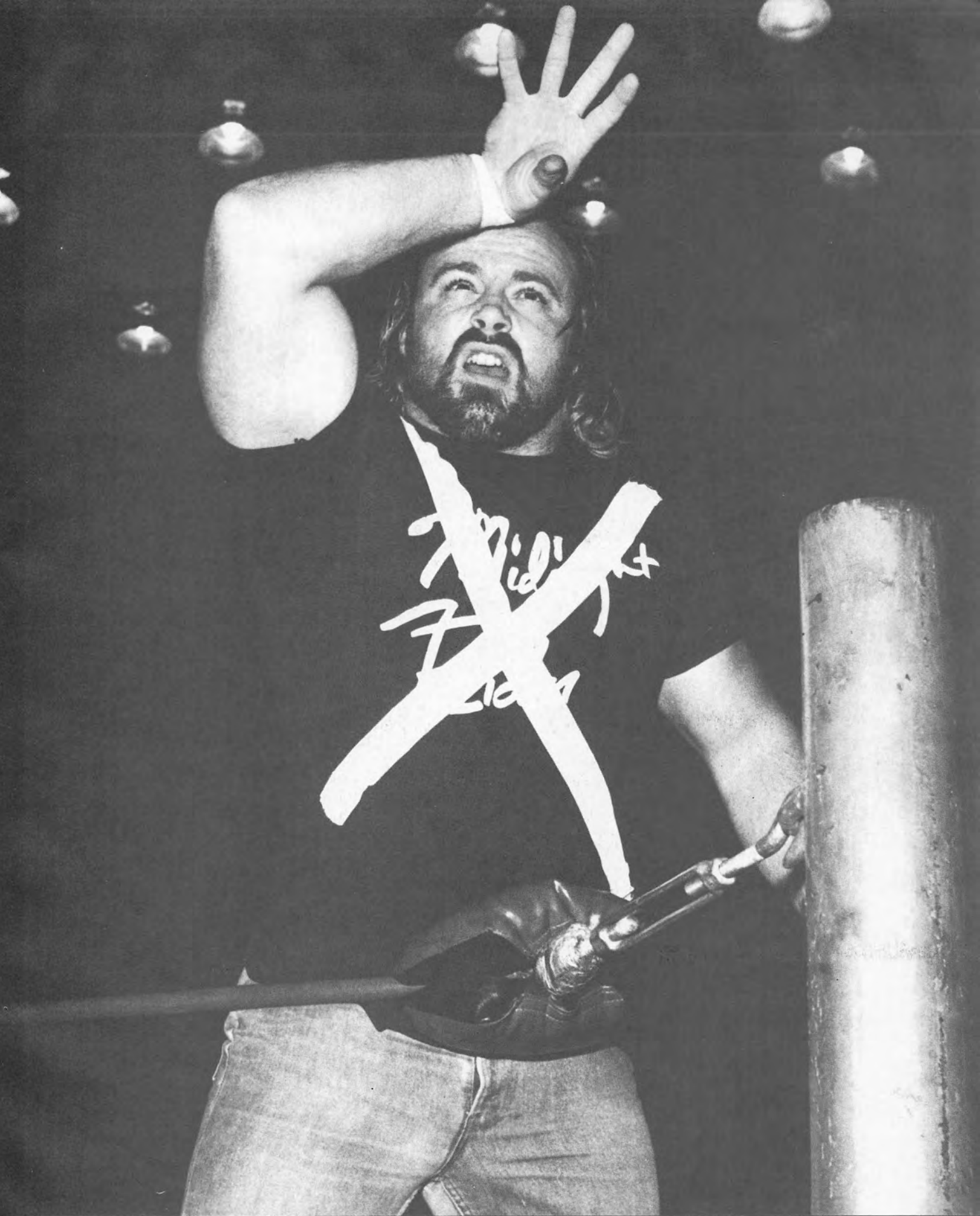


Quite the ladies' man, Gorgeous Jimmy Garvin shows off his beautiful blonde valet, Precious (top photo). Precious used to be an assistant to Jimmy's original valet, Sunshine. When forced to choose between the two, Jimmy chose Precious, setting off a feud between the two women that continues to rage on. You can't call Jimmy shy (bottom photo). Although he isn't one of the largest men in the sport, he makes up for his lack of size by his lightning quick moves and cheerful self-confidence.

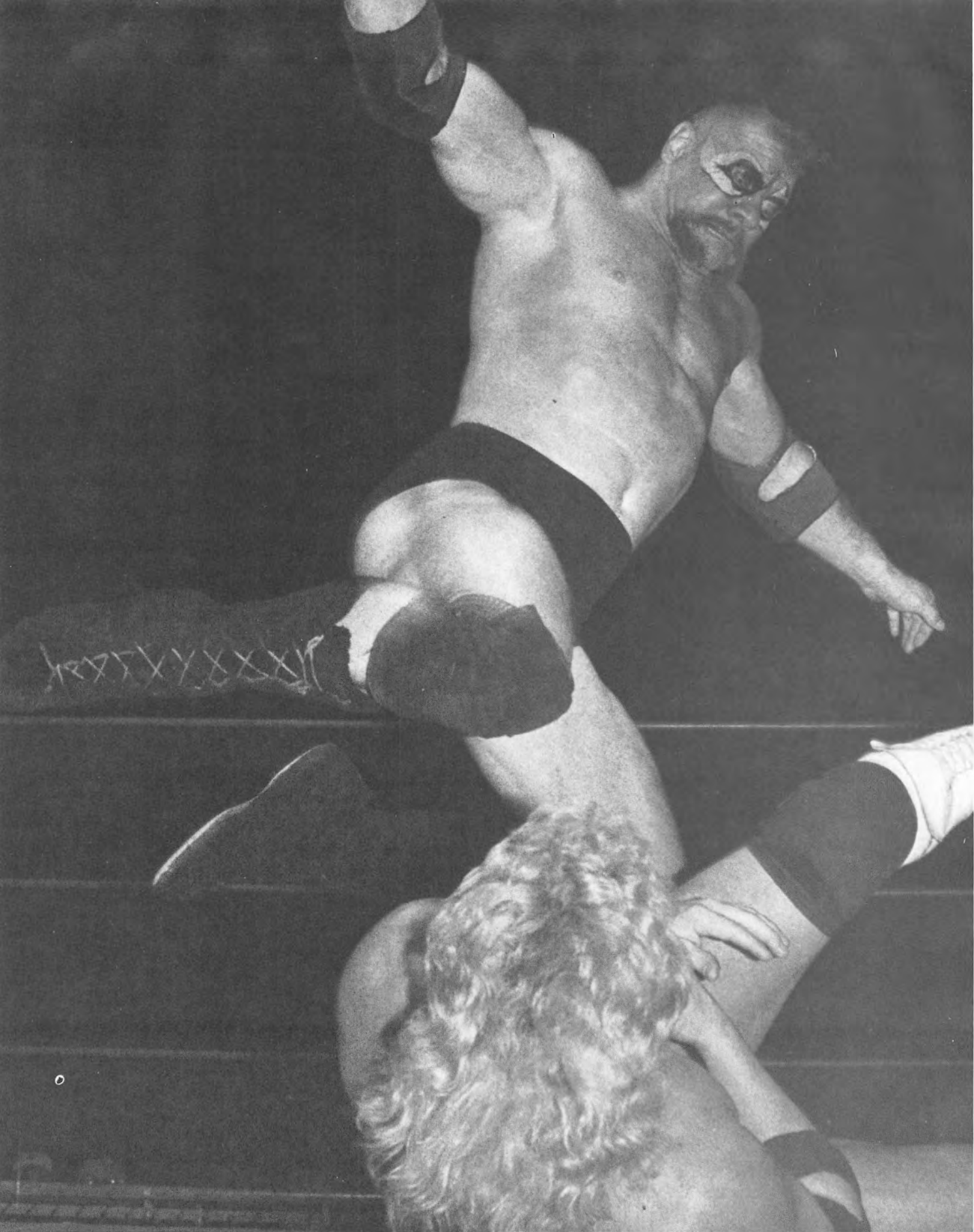


KEVIN SULLIVAN

Weight: 230 pounds. Hometown: Boston, Massachusetts. Best Move: Hypnotism. Titles Held: Southern Tag Team Champion (with Mike Graham).

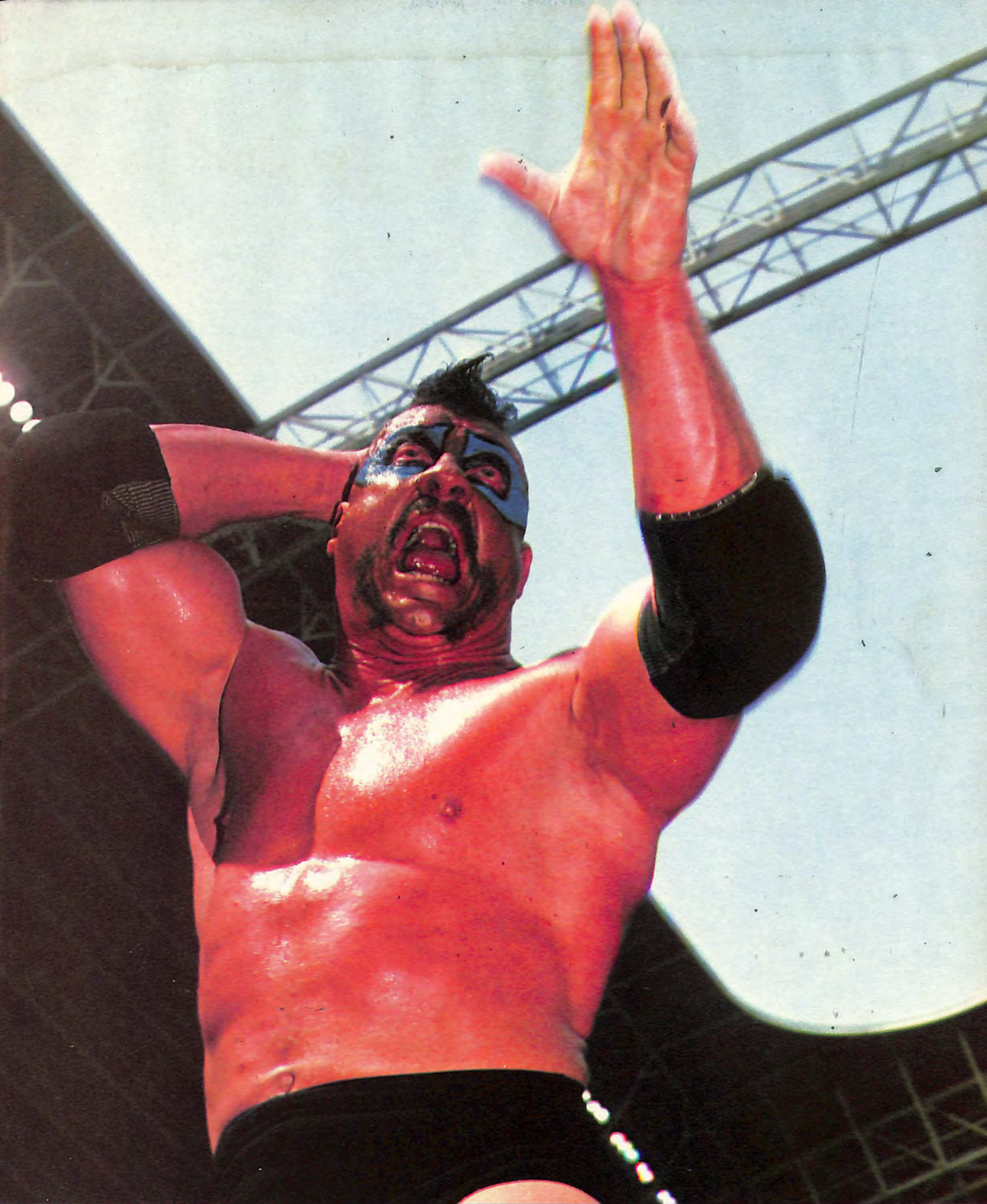


A wrestler since the age of ten, Kevin Sullivan started out his professional career as a clean-cut, well-trained grappler. Gradually, however, he became involved in cults and devil worship. Since his conversion to Satanism, he has exercised an hypnotic effect over other wrestlers both in and out of the ring. He's pictured at left with the Fallen Angel.



THE MISSING LINK

Weight: 235 pounds. Hometown: Parts Unknown. Best Move: The Head Thrust. Titles Held: None.



No one is sure whether the Missing Link is man or animal. He trains exclusively in the out-of doors, and feeds on a well-balanced diet of raw alligator meat (he catches his own), fruits, and vegetables. The Link lacks any scientific mat skill, relying instead on his rock-hard head to batter his opponents down.



WAHOO McDANIEL

Weight: 260 pounds. Hometown: Midland, Texas. Best Move: The Indian Strap Match.
Titles Held: World Tag Team Champion (with Tommy Rich), Florida Heavyweight Champion, Texas Tag Team Champion (with Ivan Putski), Mid-Atlantic Champion, Southwest Champion.



A football star in the 1960s, Wahoo McDaniel switched to professional wrestling after wrestling part-time for ten years. During his career, he has won almost every championship that exists, and continues to perform strongly against men 20 years his junior.

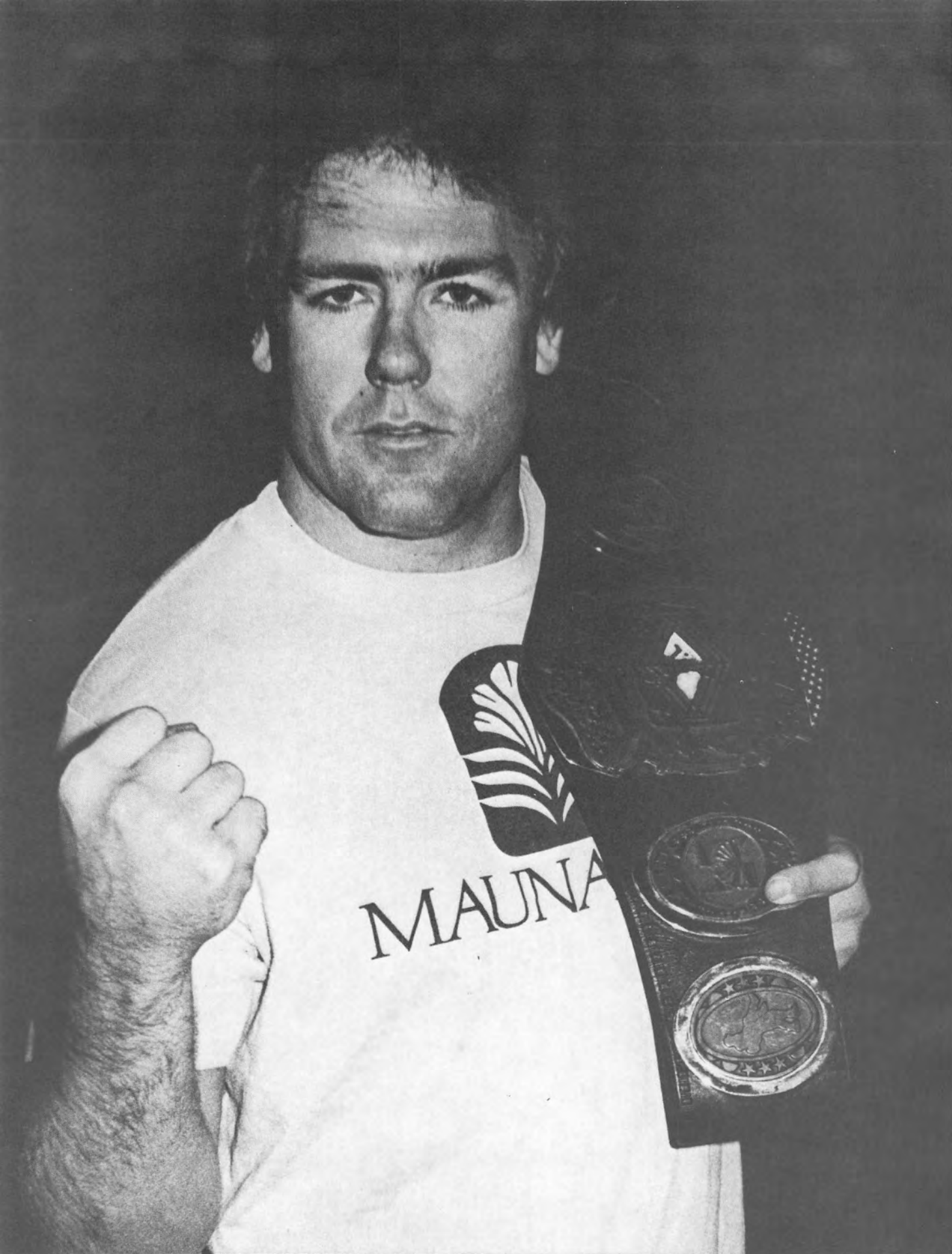


ROWDY RODDY PIPER

Weight: 235 pounds. Hometown: Glasgow, Scotland. Best Move: Superior Intellect. Titles Held: Mid-Atlantic Champion.

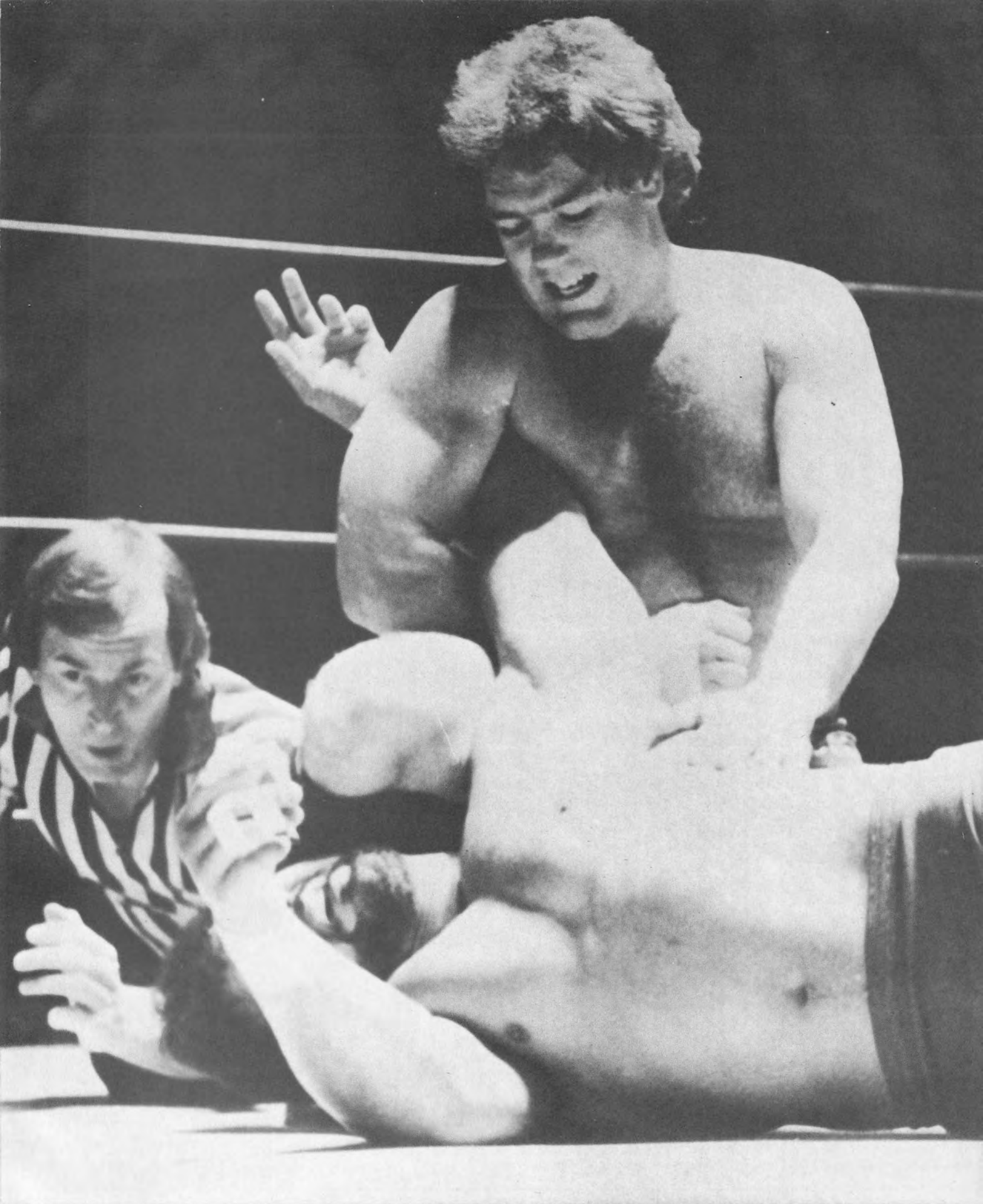


Rowdy Roddy Piper is a world-class wrestler, but by trying to dominate all facets of the sport, he runs the risk of short-circuiting his championship potential. Along with appearing in the ring, he hosts a TV show, Piper's Pit, and has managed several other wrestlers, including Bad Leroy Brown and Crusher Verdue.



TULLY BLANCHARD

Weight: 230 pounds. Hometown: San Antonio, Texas. Best Move: The Suplex. Titles Held: Southwest Champion, World Television Champion.



"Superbrat" Tully Blanchard, holder of the NWA TV title, is a talented young wrestler who is sure to go far in the sport. In the photo above, he is using his grappling skills to demolish "the Happy Hawaiian," Ricky Steamboat. Tully's brash, egotistical style isn't winning him many fans, though.

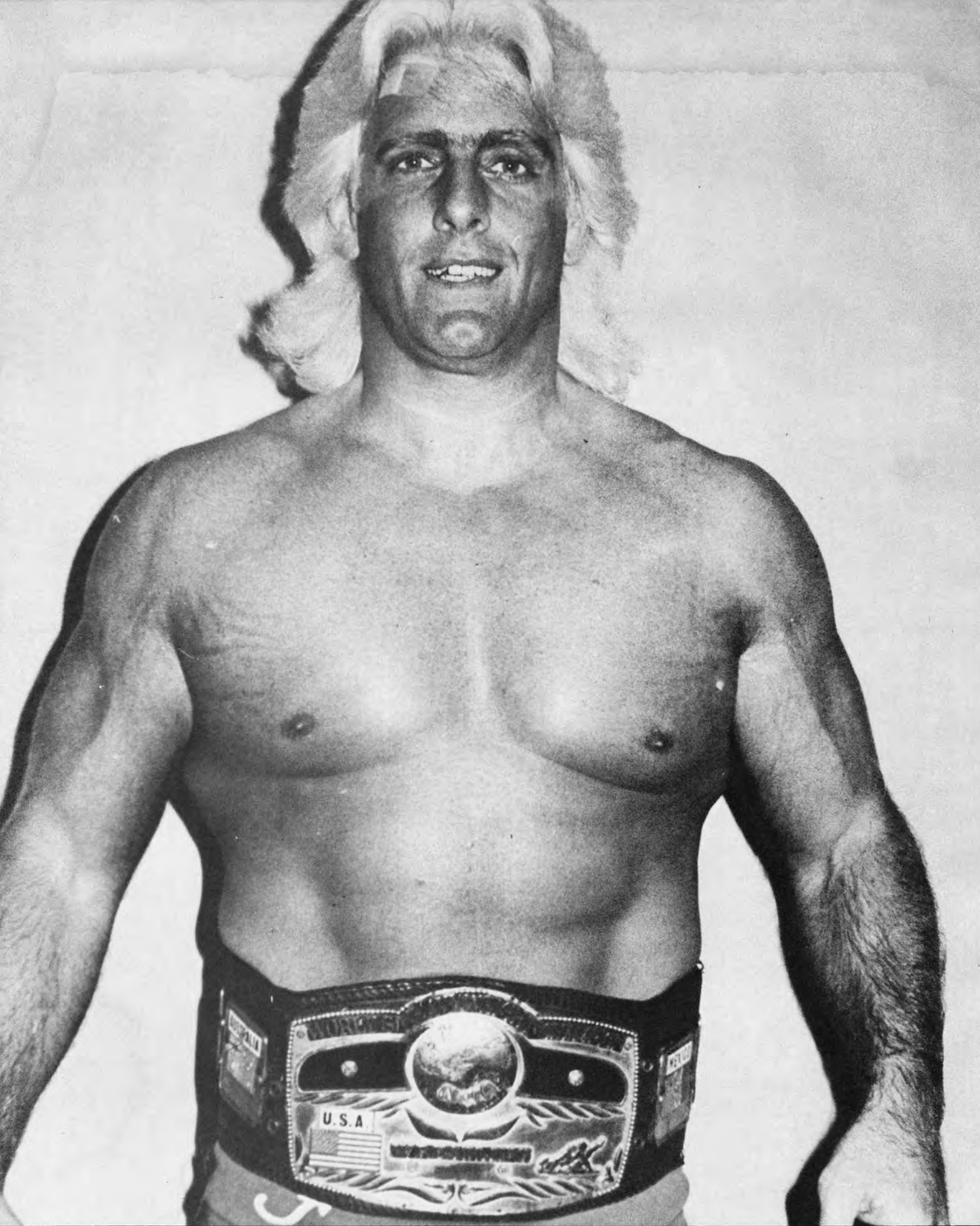


GREG VALENTINE

Weight: 243 pounds. Hometown: Seattle, Washington. Best Move: The Figure-Four Leglock.
Titles Held: U.S. Champion, ICC Champion.

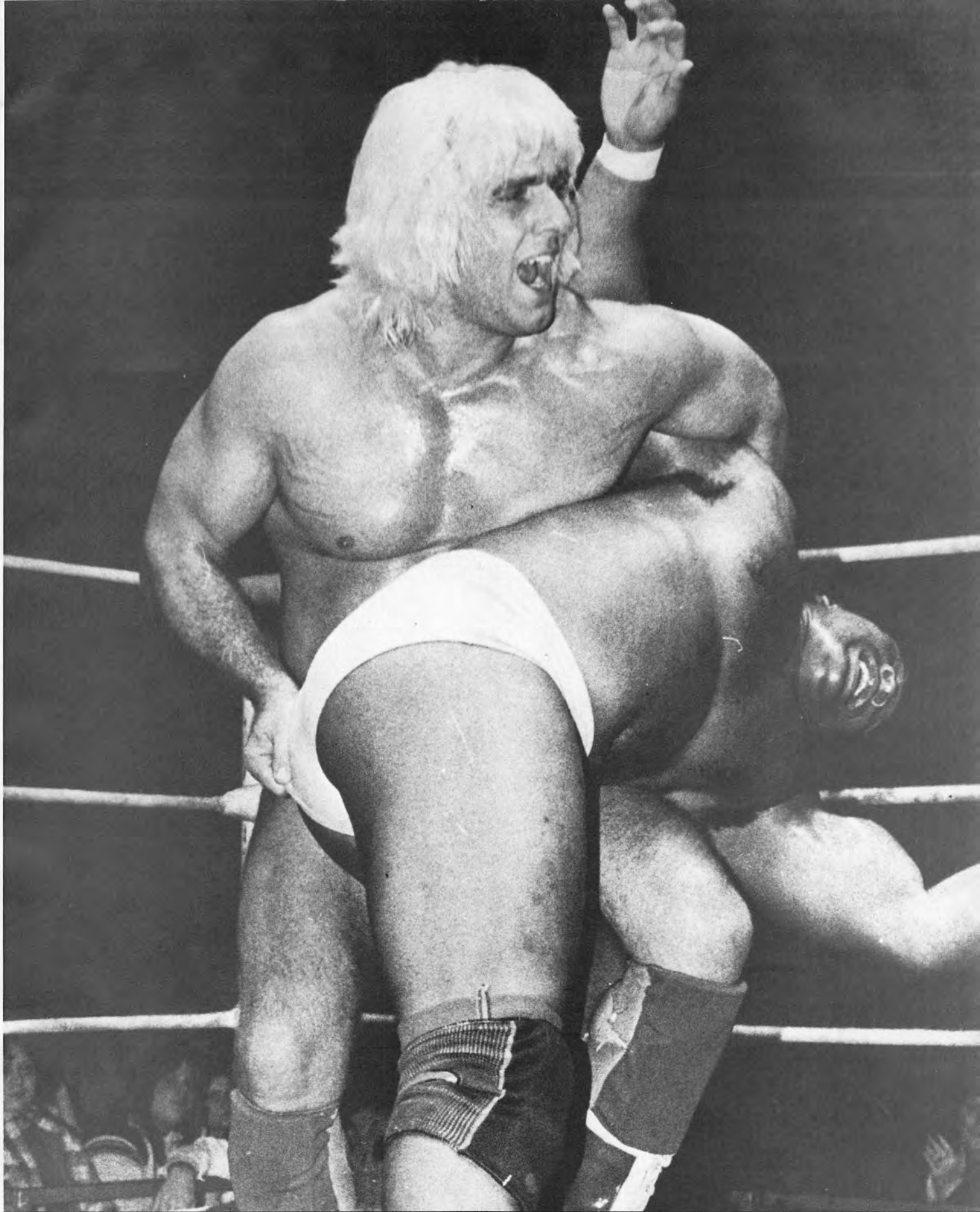


Greg Valentine is a methodical craftsman of pain in the ring. However, he needs a manager to harness his talent and provide strategic guidance. And although he's adept at devising intricate and torturous means of hurting limbs, he often fails to put his specialty into practice. Still, Valentine is a gifted wrestler, and his best years are ahead of him.



RIC FLAIR

Weight: 240 pounds. Hometown: Minneapolis, Minnesota. Best Move: The Figure-Four Leglock. Titles Held: NWA World Heavyweight Champion.

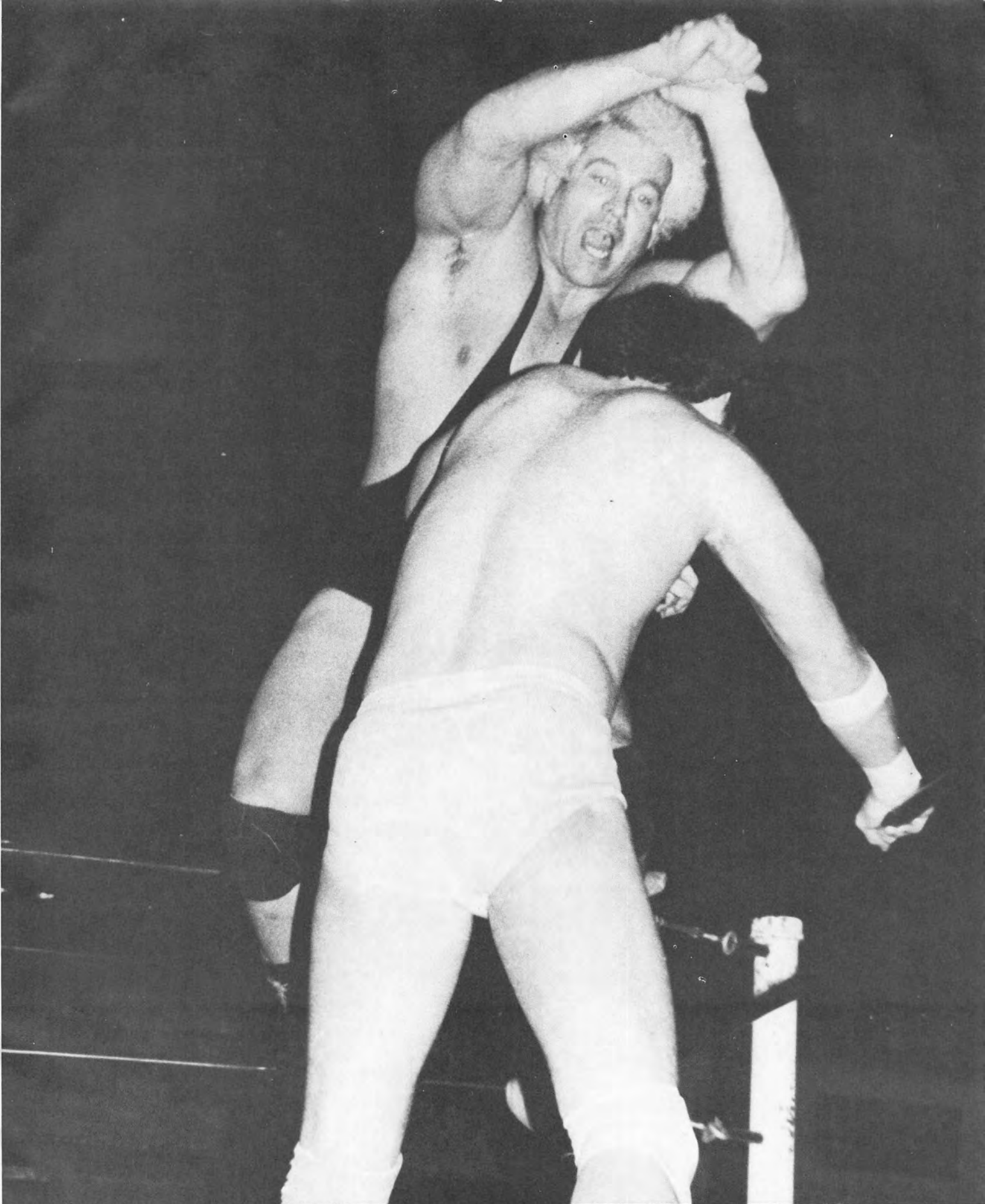


Ric Flair has Butch Reed crying for mercy. As holder of the NWA World Heavyweight Championship, Flair sets the standard in wrestling today. Although his arrogance is deplored by most fans, insiders marvel at his command of the language of wrestling.



KEN PATERA
Georgia Heavyweight Champion.

Weight: 275 pounds. Hometown: Portland, Oregon. Best Move: The Swinging Neckbreaker. Titles Held: AWA Tag Team Champion, Mid-Atlantic Champion, WWF Intercontinental Champion, Missouri Champion,



Ken Patera started out his career as a weight lifter, winning a bronze medal in the 1972 Olympic Games. He became involved in wrestling because he enjoyed the one-on-one competition. His most famous ring appearance was the night he pounded Andre the Giant senseless and proceeded to cut off the unconscious man's hair. Pictured opposite page left to right: Manager Bobby "the Brain" Heenan, Ken Patera, Big John Studd (seated).

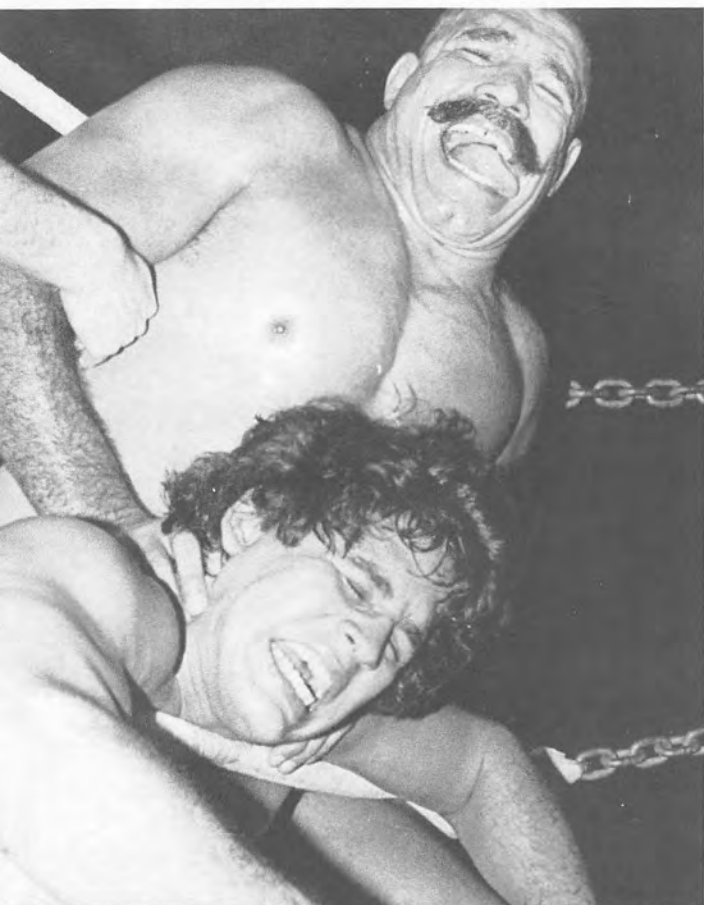


THE ROAD WARRIORS

Weight: 565 pounds (combined). Hometown: Chicago, Illinois. Best Move: Brute Strength. Titles Held: National Tag Team Champions, World Tag Team Champions.



The Road Warriors (Hawk and Animal) are arguably the preeminent story in wrestling today. Although Roddy Piper, Hulk Hogan, and Sgt. Slaughter have all transfigured wrestling history in recent years, the Road Warriors' popularity and influence are unprecedented. They are being touted as the greatest tag team in history.



THE IRON SHEIK AND NIKOLAI VOLKOFF

towns: Tehran, Iran/Moscow, U.S.S.R. Best Move: Baiting Patriotic Americans. Titles Held: WWF Tag Team Champions.

Weight: 565 pounds (combined). Home-

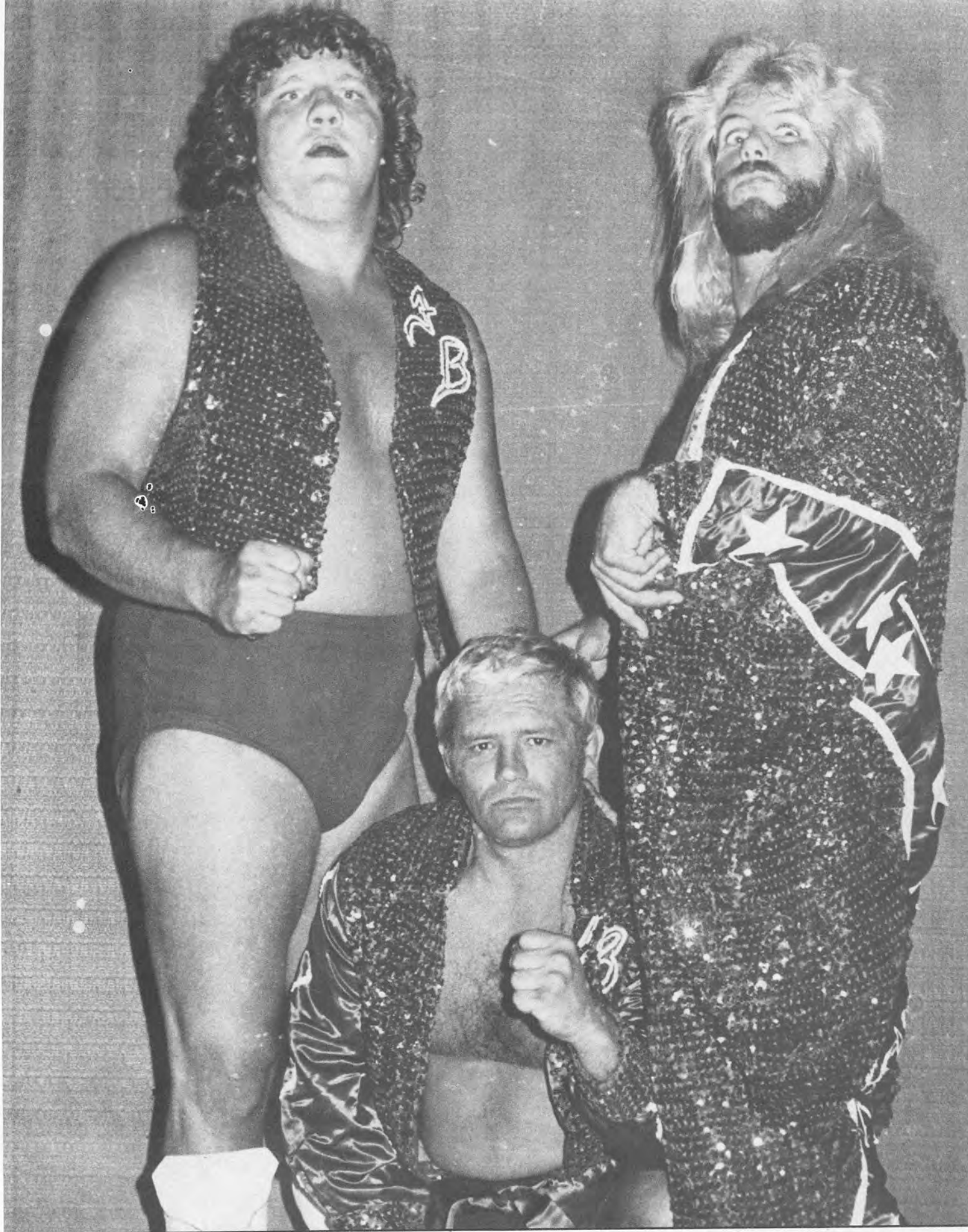


The Iron Sheik and Nikolai Volkoff are two of the most hated wrestlers in America. Volkoff (pictured above with his manager Fred Blassie) sings the Russian national anthem before each match. The Sheik, a former bodyguard for the Shah of Iran, brings photos of the Ayatollah to the ring.



THE FREEBIRDS

Combined Weight: 730 pounds. Hometown: Atlanta, Georgia. Best Move: Recording the Hit Record, "Bad Street, U.S.A." Titles Held: National Tag Team Champions, Georgia Tag Team Champions, World Class Six-Man Tag Team Champions.

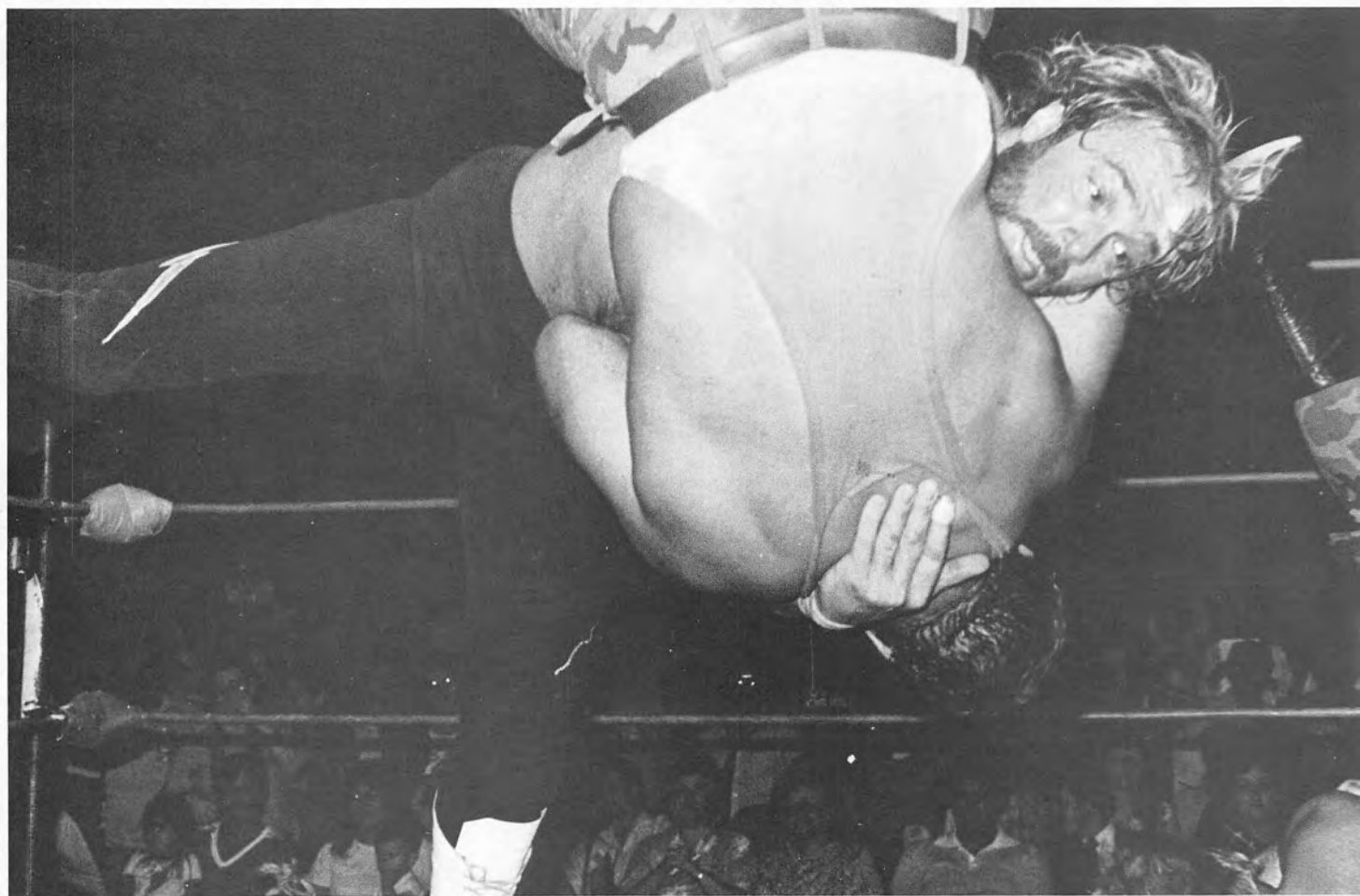
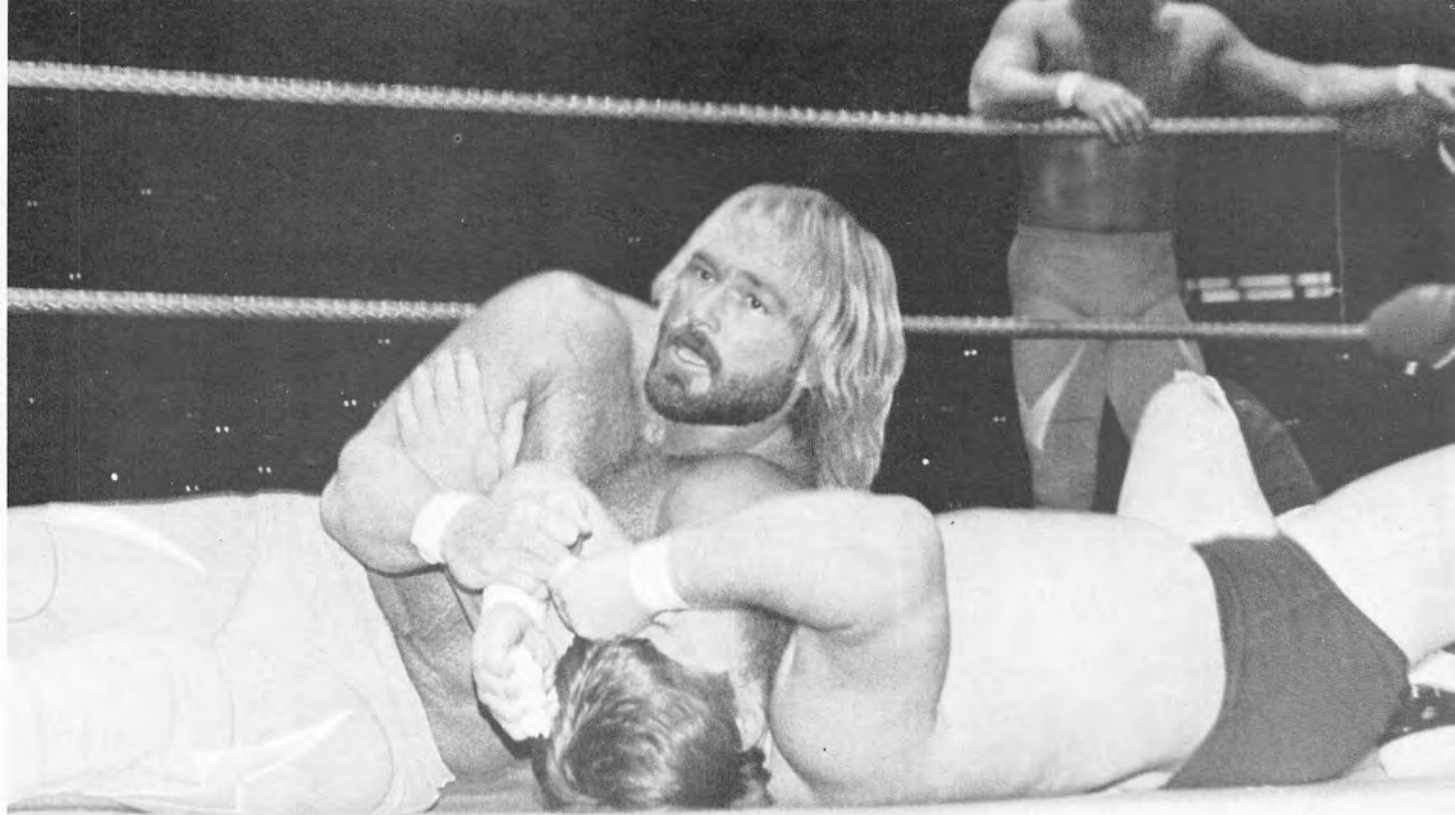


Terry "Bam Bam" Gordy, Buddy Roberts and Michael Hayes are the Fabulous Freebirds, a motley collection of mat men who like to party with friends and Piledrive everyone else. The threesome's "Bad Street, U.S.A." hit reportedly sparked their move from Georgia to New York City in order to be closer to the music industry.



THE FABULOUS ONES

Combined Weight: 465 pounds. Hometown: Del Rey Beach, Florida. Best Moves: Speed and Agility. Titles Held: Mid-Southern Tag Team Champions.



Although they are a small team (weighing in at a combined weight of 465 pounds), the Fabulous Ones (Stan Lane and Steve Keirn) make up for their lack of size with years of experience, fast moves, and complementary styles of wrestling. They've never won any World Tag Team Titles, but they should not be thought of as losers. Together for six years, they have set a record for tag team longevity, and are still considered one of the top teams in the sport.



LELANI KAI

Weight 138 pounds. Hometown: Honolulu, Hawaii. Best Move: Defeating Wendi Richter. Titles Held: Women's World Champion.



Hawaiian born Lelani Kai learned the ropes in a training camp run by the 28-year champion, the Fabulous Moolah. Kai has a thorough knowledge of scientific holds and aerial maneuvers plus a liberal sprinkling of Moolah's illegal tricks. Kai held the Women's World Champion title for two weeks in March of 1985 until Wendi Richter regained it.



WENDI RICHTER

Weight: 140 pounds. Hometown: Dallas, Texas. Best Move: Killer Instinct. Titles Held: Women's World Heavyweight Champion, World Tag Team Champion.



Wendi Richter has the potential to be not only the greatest female wrestler in history, but also a catalyst for social change. Unfortunately, the Lauper-managed Richter is focusing on impressing fans with her good looks and scanty togs rather than the skillful, aggressive wrestling she is capable of.



THE FABULOUS MOOLAH

Weight: 138 pounds. Hometown: Columbia, South Carolina. Best Move: Holding the title for 28 years. Titles Held: Woman's World Champion.

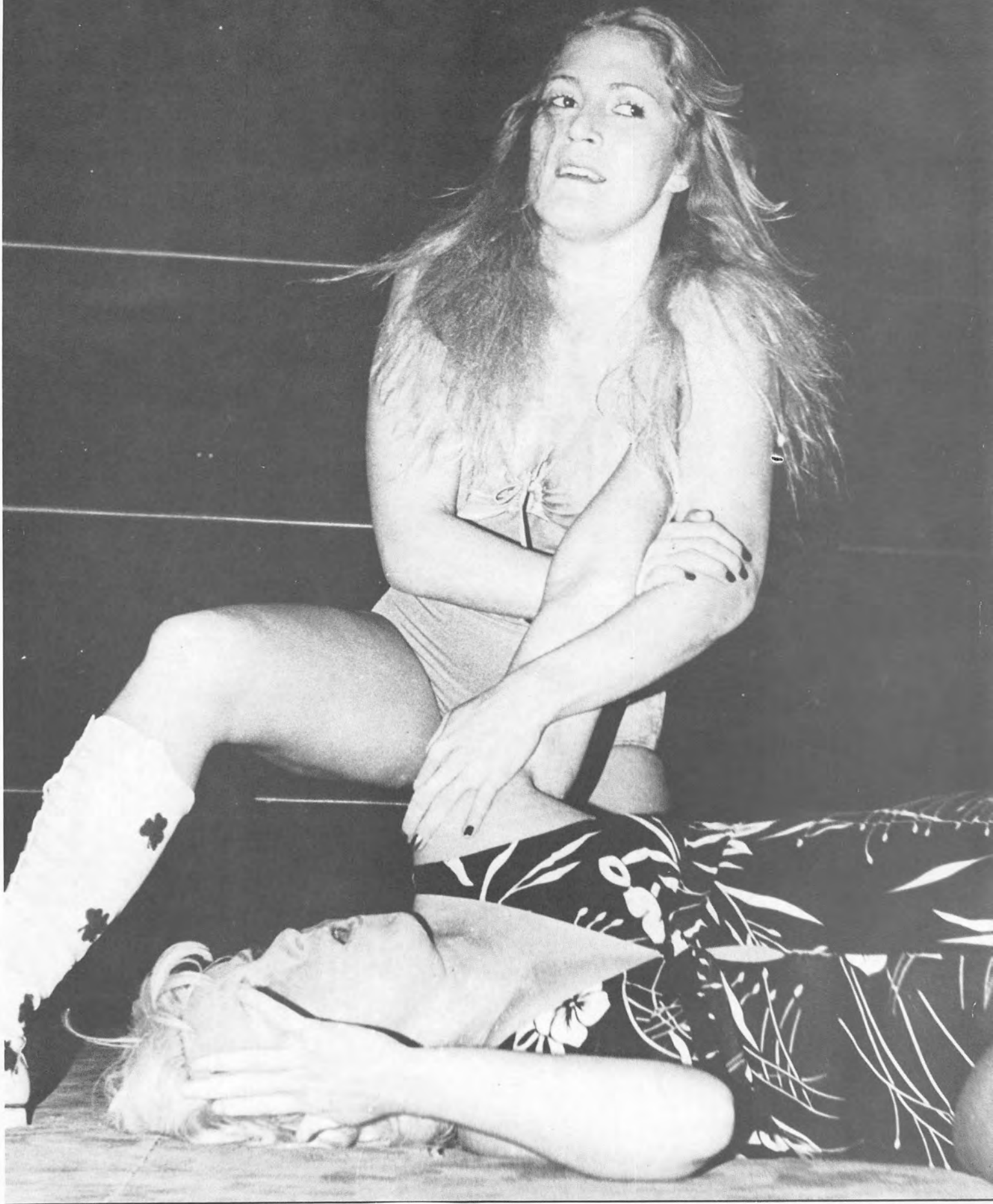


The infamous Captain Lou Albano of the World Wrestling Federation puts the Fabulous Moolah through her training paces. The Fabulous Moolah held the Women's World Championship for an unbelievable 28 years, a record title reign for both men and women. Moolah lost her record reign to Wendi Richter, but coached Lelani Kai (opposite page, far left) to a revenge-inspired temporary victory over Richter.

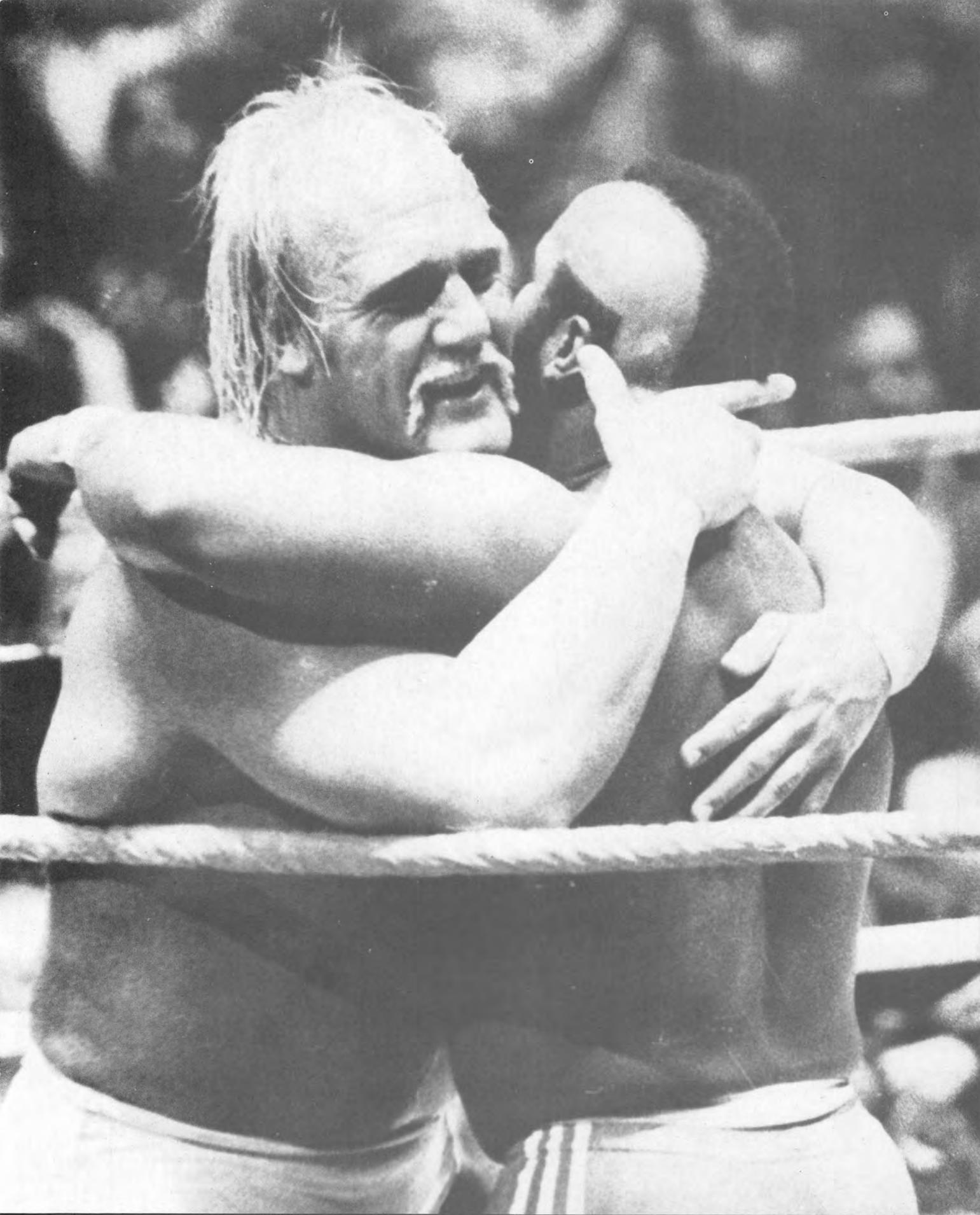


VELVET McINTYRE

Weight: 135 pounds. Hometown: Dublin, Ireland. Best Move: The Armlock. Titles Held: Women's Tag Team Champion.



Lovely Velvet McIntyre was born in Dublin, Ireland, and started her wrestling career in Canada. She's now one of the best female wrestlers in the world, and she and Desiree Petersen make up the number one women's tag team. Above, McIntyre trounces Judy Grable.



Two of today's biggest, most media drenched wrestling stars, Hulk Hogan and Mr. T, embrace after their match at "WrestleMania" in Madison Square Garden.

**KAMALA
RIC FLAIR
HULK HOGAN
JUNKYARD DOG
BIG JOHN STUDD
ANDRE THE GIANT
THE MISSING LINK
SERGEANT SLAUGHTER
AND MORE!!!**



ISBN 0-451-82131-9

U.S.
\$4.95
CAN
\$6.75
0-451-82131-9
NON-FICTION